

Offer of Financial Aid for Diego Ayala

February 14, 2022

The fellowship you have received is part of a highly competitive and prestigious University-wide fellowship program called the Rackham Merit Fellowship (RMF). The Rackham Merit Fellowship program helps sustain the academic excellence and inclusiveness of the Michigan graduate community, one that embraces students with diverse experiences and goals, and who come from many educational, cultural, geographic, and familial backgrounds. The offer also includes health benefits, a relocation stipend, a technology grant, and research funds at both the pre-candidate and candidate stages of the program.

The funding package includes:

Summer 2022					TOTAL
Relocation Stipend - \$1,000					<u>\$1,000</u>
Year 1 - 2022/2023	Fall	Winter	Sp/Su	TOTAL	
Rackham Merit Fellowship - Pre-Candidate Tuition & Fees*	\$26,485	\$26,485		\$52,970	
Rackham Merit Fellowship - Stipend*	\$11,980	\$11,980		\$23,960	
Rackham Merit Fellowship - Summer Stipend*			\$11,980	\$11,980	
Health and Dental Insurance*	\$1,282	\$1,320	\$1,320	\$3,922	
Technology Grant (research account)	\$1,500			\$1,500	
Pre-Candidate Research Grant (research account)	\$1,500			\$1,500	
	Year 1 - Award Total			<u>\$95,832</u>	
Year 2 - 2023/2024	Fall	Winter	Sp/Su	TOTAL	
Graduate Student Instructorship - Pre-Candidate Tuition*	\$27,637	\$27,637		\$55,274	
Graduate Student Instructorship - Stipend*	\$12,376	\$12,376		\$24,752	
Sociology Summer Stipend			\$4,000	\$4,000	
Health and Dental Insurance*	\$1,320	\$1,360	\$1,360	\$4,040	
	Year 2 - Award Total			<u>\$88,066</u>	
Year 3 - 2024/2025	Fall	Winter	Sp/Su	TOTAL	
Graduate Student Instructorship - Pre-Candidate Tuition*	\$29,019	\$29,019		\$58,038	
Graduate Student Instructorship - Stipend*	\$12,784	\$12,784		\$25,568	
Sociology Summer Stipend			\$4,000	\$4,000	
Health and Dental Insurance*	\$1,360	\$1,401	\$1,401	\$4,162	
	Year 3 - Award Total			<u>\$91,768</u>	
Year 4 - 2025/2026	Fall	Winter	Sp/Su	TOTAL	
Rackham Merit Fellowship - Candidate Tuition & Fees*	\$7,731	\$7,731		\$15,462	
Rackham Merit Fellowship - Stipend*	\$13,206	\$13,206		\$26,412	
Sociology Summer Stipend			\$4,000	\$4,000	
Health and Dental Insurance*	\$1,401	\$1,443	\$1,443	\$4,287	
Candidate Research Grant (research account)	\$3,500			\$3,500	
	Year 4 - Award Total			<u>\$53,661</u>	



Year 5 - 2026/2027	Fall	Winter	Sp/Su	TOTAL
Rackham Merit Fellowship - Candidate Tuition & Fees*	\$8,109	\$8,109		\$16,218
Rackham Merit Fellowship - Stipend*	\$13,642	\$13,642		\$27,284
Sociology Summer Stipend			\$4,000	\$4,000
Health and Dental Insurance*	\$1,443	\$1,486	\$1,486	\$4,415
	Year 5 - Award Total			<u>\$51,917</u>
Total Financial Support				<u>\$382,244</u>

***Please Note:**

The amounts listed are estimated costs of a non-resident student on the department's standard funding plan. This model assumes tuition increases at a rate of 5% per year, Fall/Winter stipend at 3.3% per year, and GradCare and Dental at 3% per year. Departmental fellowship stipend rates are benchmarked with the UM/GEO Contract in order to provide students with relatively consistent income. Dollar amounts here are to provide a general idea of potential funding over a 5 year period and may not be the exact amounts received.

Funding Package Explanation:

Your funding will vary throughout your career here and will include a combination of fellowships, paid teaching, funded research, as well as external funding for which we encourage you to apply. More information regarding the Rackham Merit Fellowship can be found on the Rackham website: [Rackham Merit Fellowship Program](#). Please see the enclosed attachment for information on how this award is adjusted if you receive other non-departmental fellowships.

Summer 2022:

At the beginning of August, you will receive a \$1,000 relocation stipend.

First Year:

You will receive a Rackham Merit Fellowship that includes tuition, student fees, and stipend for both semesters.

Second and Third Year:

You will receive your tuition and stipend through a paid Graduate Student Instructorship (GSI). You will be awarded a position for each semester. Students are expected to cover a certain portion of their student fees (currently \$90.69) during the terms in which they are employed as a GSI.

Fourth and Fifth Year:

After you achieve candidacy, you will receive a Rackham Merit Fellowship that includes tuition, student fees, and stipend for four semesters.

Summer Stipends:

You will receive four (4) summer stipends of \$4,000 from the Sociology Department. Students can petition to combine summer funding from the department, but it will only be approved in extreme cases.

You will also receive a Rackham Merit summer stipend of approximately \$11,980. The model above shows the RMF summer stipend being taken in the first year (which is most common), but a student may choose to take it in whichever summer best meets their needs.

Technology and Research Grants:

You will receive a one-time \$1,500 Technology Grant. Sociology IT professionals will work with you to identify the best computer for your needs and will purchase it through the university, and therefore will be university property (and eligible for UM computer licenses and support). If a new computer is not needed, these funds will be added to your pre-candidate research grant.

You will also receive a \$1,500 Pre-Candidate Research Grant that should be used during your first three years in the program.

After you have advanced to candidacy (before your fourth year in the program), you will receive a \$3,500 Candidate Research Grant.

Health and Dental Insurance:

Your five-year funding package provides health and dental insurance through the University of Michigan's GradCare for each academic year, as well as coverage over the summers. This coverage is for you and your eligible dependents. Please visit <http://benefits.umich.edu/> for more information regarding your benefits.

Information about our campus community COVID-19 vaccination expectation:

All students, faculty and staff on the Ann Arbor (including Michigan Medicine), Dearborn, Flint campuses are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and to submit their vaccination information. The university is providing limited exemptions to the COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for medical or religious reasons. You can read more about the U-M COVID-19 Vaccination Policy here: <https://campusblueprint.umich.edu/vaccine/>.

Funding Package Contingency:*Background Checks:*

The University requires background checks for all individuals who have an appointment or employment at the University. Because your funding offer includes the possibility of appointment as a graduate student instructor (GSI), graduate student research assistant (GSRA), and/or graduate student staff assistant (GSSA), a background check prior to your first appointment in any one of these positions is needed. Your funding commitment is contingent upon successful completion of a background check, which includes successful resolution of any issues that might arise, prior to the commencement of your first appointment. Please note that information received as part of this standard screening will not automatically make you ineligible for funding. Such information will be reviewed on a case by case basis, consistent with University policy. The University has an interest in protecting the privacy of students. To that end, the results of your background screening will not be regularly shared with faculty in your department. Additional information about the process may be found in the University's policy on Background Screening. If you have any questions, please contact Academic Human Resources (734-763-8938).

Satisfactory Progress & Performance of Teaching Duties:

In addition to the background check referenced above, your five-year funding package is contingent on your satisfactory progress through the program and your satisfactory performance in your work as a Graduate Student Instructor.

Additional Funding Opportunities:

During your time in the program, you will be eligible to receive a number of grants and awards from the Rackham Graduate School.

Rackham Conference Travel Grant - \$800-\$1,300/year

Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant - \$1,500/\$3,000

Students are eligible to receive a Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant twice during their career: \$1,500 as a pre-candidate & \$3,000 as a candidate.

Graduate Student Professional Travel with Child Grant - \$750/year

Rackham Professional Development Grant - \$400 (1)

Rackham Graduate Student Emergency Funds - \$2,500 (2)

The Rackham Graduate School has a full list of funding available to graduate students. Please note that some awards require department nominations, additional information will be sent to students regarding these awards.

RMF Connection:

As a recipient of the RMF award, you are invited to participate in special programming throughout your academic career at Michigan. This programming is designed to support your academic and professional development and it will offer you the opportunity to expand your personal and professional networks.

All incoming Rackham Merit Fellows are also invited to participate in "RMF Connection." The 2022 Rackham Merit Fellowship (RMF) Connection one-week program will be held August 15 – 19, 2022. Fellows will receive advanced academic preparation by participating in a mini course and a series of professional development workshops. You must register no later than July 15, 2022. You will also receive an invitation to participate in the RMF Connection once you have completed and returned the RMF Program Decision form.

For additional information about the RMF Connection, please visit <https://rackham.umich.edu/rackham-life/diversity-equity-and-inclusion/rmf-connection/>. You may also call 734-647-9404 or e-mail rackham-rmf-connection@umich.edu. If you contact us, please let us know your name, graduate program, e-mail address, and phone number.

Response Deadline:

The Council of Graduate Schools, of which the University of Michigan is a member, has a statement called, "Resolution Regarding Graduate Scholars, Fellows, Trainees and Assistants" outlining that an admitted student may have until April 15th to accept offers of financial support.

Though we are happy to hear your positive reply at any time, we must hear from you no later than April 15, 2022.

You will also need to complete the Rackham Merit Fellowship Program Decision Form for 2022–2023 by the April 15, 2022 deadline.

Please feel free to contact Ellannee Rajewsky, our Graduate Program Coordinator, at soc-gradadmin@umich.edu to ask any questions regarding funding and program requirements. Also, please feel free to contact me at jaeunk@umich.edu; I would be delighted to hear from you. We very much hope that you will decide to join us.

Speaking on behalf of the faculty and staff, I'd like to underscore that we very much look forward to meeting you and hope you join our department. Congratulations again on your excellent record and on your admission to the University of Michigan!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jaeun Kim". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the closing "Sincerely yours,".

Dr. Jaeun Kim
Associate Director of Graduate Studies, Department of
Sociology Korean Foundation Endowed Associate Professor

Enclosure: Policy – Impact of External Funding on Package