



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
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www.ssc.wisc.edu/soc

January 29, 2022

Diego Ayala
9084521765
Cc: diegoca@princeton.edu

Dear Diego,

I am pleased to offer you a **2022-2023 Academic Year** Graduate School Fellowship for your graduate studies for the **nine (9)** months from August 22, 2022 to May 21, 2023. Support for this fellowship is provided by the Graduate School, part of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with funding from the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation and the UW-Madison. We commend you on your accomplishments and look forward to your participation in our community of scholars.

We are offering the following as part of your fellowship:

1. A stipend totaling \$23,727 from August 22, 2022 to May 21, 2023
2. Payment of all tuition and segregated fees during the fellowship period
3. Eligibility for health insurance and other benefits during the fellowship period.

The addendum to this letter, "Important Information for Fellows," provides detailed information about your fellowship; please read it carefully as it outlines important benefits and obligations of your fellowship.

The final page of the Terms and Conditions of Fellows also includes a Fellowship Offer Response Form that you should return to your program. The University of Wisconsin-Madison subscribes to the [resolution of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States](#), which indicates that this offer is conditional on your presentation of the written release from any offer accepted through April 15th.

If you have any questions about your fellowship offer or about funding for the remainder of your graduate studies, please contact your graduate program. Again, congratulations. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Monica J. Grant

Chair, Graduate Admissions Committee
Director of Graduate Studies
Professor
Department of Sociology

Important Information about your Fellowship

Important Information about your Fellowship

Fellowship period:	August 22, 2022 to May 21, 2023
Total stipend amount:	\$23,727 paid in biweekly installments
First stipend check available:	September 8, 2022

You must [set up direct deposit to a bank or credit union](#) using the Payroll information portal on MyUW or by contacting your program's Payroll & Benefits Coordinator.

Nonservice Appointment

This is a non-service fellowship award. Payments are to support your studies or research. You are not required to perform any services in exchange for the award.

Tuition and Segregated Fees

Your fellowship covers the full cost of tuition, which includes the resident and non-resident (as applicable) portion of the tuition and segregated fees during the fellowship period stated above. **Please note that the fellowship does not cover additional fees, including office document fees, international student fees, and/or course fees.** If you wish to take credits during the summer following your fellowship, you will be responsible for paying the instate tuition rate for those credits.

Insurance Benefits

All benefits and payroll paperwork should be completed through the e-Benefits portal on MyUW or with your program's Payroll & Benefits Coordinator. Fellows are eligible for most of the same benefits as RAs, TAs, and PAs. **Fellows are not, however, eligible for any tax sheltered savings accounts (e.g. FSA, HSA, and 403b) as fellowship stipends do not have US income tax withheld.** To learn about benefits you are eligible for, please visit <https://hr.wisc.edu/benefits/new-employee-benefits-enrollment/benefits-for-employees-not-covered-by-the-wrs/> or contact your program's Payroll & Benefits Coordinator. **Benefit applications must be completed within 30 days of the start of your appointment to secure benefits.** To start your benefits as soon as possible, the forms must be submitted prior to the start of your fellowship.

Full-Time Study

You must register full-time during all terms in which you have a fellowship appointment. Full-time study for non-dissertators is a minimum of eight (8) credits of graduate level coursework each fall and spring semester. Full-time study for dissertators is exactly three (3) credits each fall and spring semester. If you have a summer fellowship appointment, non-dissertators must register for two (2) credits and dissertators must register for three (3) credits; to be taken during the 8-week general summer session (DHH). Graduate-level credits are courses numbered 300 and above that are not taken as audit or pass/fail. Research and thesis credits that are graded as satisfactory/unsatisfactory are fine. **Failure to register will result in the withholding of your stipend.**

Satisfactory Progress

Fellows must make satisfactory progress toward their graduate degrees. Satisfactory progress is at the discretion of a student's program, the Graduate School, and a student's faculty advisor. At a minimum, the Graduate School requires that students maintain a graduate GPA of at least 3.0 in all graduate-level work taken as a graduate student. Future funding is dependent on satisfactory progress toward your degree.

Concurrent Appointments

In general, along with your fellowship, you may hold concurrent graduate assistantships and/or student hourly appointments up to a total maximum combined annual stipend equivalent to the 100% RA appointment level for your academic program (see <https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/graduate-assistantships/> for the current rates by program). For more information on concurrent appointments, please visit <https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/concurrent-appointments>. **Please contact the Fellowship Officer at offr@grad.wisc.edu before accepting a concurrent appointment.**

Taxes

Fellowship stipends are not considered wages, although they may be taxable income. As such **the University does not withhold taxes from the stipend**. As a result, you may have to pay estimated taxes on a quarterly basis directly to the Internal Revenue Service and the state Department of Revenue in order to avoid penalties for late payment of taxes. Address questions regarding quarterly estimates to the Internal Revenue Service or the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. **University faculty and staff are not authorized to provide tax advice**. However, the University of Wisconsin Service Center has put together a [useful website with general information about tax filing](#). To help you prepare annual income tax forms, Employee Compensation and Benefits (EC&B), 21 N. Park Street, Suite 5101, will send each appointee an information letter reporting the amount of stipend paid the previous tax year. You will receive a Fellowship Letter in January. You will not receive a W-2 form, since W-2 forms are for wages only. Address questions regarding this letter or other withholding issues to EC&B at (608) 265-2257.

Financial Aid

This award may affect your eligibility for need-based financial aid. You must inform the [Office of Student Financial Aid](#) (608-262-3060) and any granting agency of all types of support you receive, including fellowships, to ensure appropriate calculation of financial need.

COVID-19 Information

UW-Madison employees are required to comply with all UW Madison COVID-19 related policies. For the most updated guidance, please see <https://hr.wisc.edu/docs/recruitment/new-employee-communication-covid-guidelines.pdf>.

Information for 2-Year Graduate School Fellowships Only

If you have a 2-year Graduate School Fellowship, you must be a non-dissertator during the first year of your fellowship and a dissertator during your second year of your fellowship. You are required to maintain dissertator status during the second year of your fellowship. You will be eligible to receive the second year of your Two-Year University Fellowship in any academic year after you have attained dissertator status. MFA students are eligible to receive the second year of the University Fellowship in the final year of their studies. The stipend rate for the second year is determined each Fall for the following academic year and is generally the same as or somewhat higher than the stipend level of the

initial year. **Your funding support may change during the years which are not covered by this fellowship.** Please check with your program to get the details of future funding opportunities. For each future appointment, you should ask for the following information: type of position (e.g., research assistantship, teaching assistantship); start and end dates; percentage of the appointment/number of work hours required (e.g., 50% appointment = 20 hours); stipend amount; tuition coverage; payment of segregated fees, if applicable, (segregated fees are roughly \$740/semester and \$360/summer term); eligibility for health insurance; and additional benefits, if any (e.g., travel funds, professional development funds, priority for graduate student housing, et cetera).

Housing Priority for Incoming Fellows

If you are an incoming student and are interested in obtaining housing through the university, please visit <https://www.housing.wisc.edu/apartments>. Pending availability, incoming Graduate School Fellows are given priority in housing assignment at Eagle Heights and Harvey Street apartments. To apply, fill out the online application, and indicate in the University Status section that you have a “Graduate School Fellowship.”

Sponsorship

Sponsorship of this award should be acknowledged in any reports/publications that may arise from this funding using the following language, “*Support for this fellowship is provided by the Graduate School, part of the Office of Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with funding from the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation and the UW-Madison.*”

FELLOWSHIP OFFER RESPONSE FORM

Name:

University of Wisconsin Campus ID:

I have read the offer letter and the accompanying Important Information about your Fellowship and I wish to: *(check one)*

ACCEPT the fellowship that has been offered me.

DECLINE the fellowship that has been offered me.

I **acknowledge** that my total stipend amount will be at least \$23,727, paid in biweekly installments, and will be in effect from August 22, 2022 to May 21, 2023.

I **acknowledge** that I must be enrolled as a full-time student during all terms in which I hold a fellowship appointment.

I **acknowledge** that my acceptance of this fellowship may affect my eligibility for financial aid.

I am an incoming student interested in receiving priority for University Housing