



ALLIANCE *for* AFRICAN
PARTNERSHIP



African Studies Center
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Alliance for African Partnership (AAP) and African Studies Center (ASC)

Student Research Fellowship Application

AAP and ASC are pleased to announce our **Student Research Fellowship**. This award supports:

1. MSU graduate students' travel to any African country for research.
2. Graduate students from AAP's ten African consortium members to travel to MSU for research.
3. MSU graduate students' travel in the US to present their research on Africa at an academic conference.

Eligibility

AAP and ASC recognize that graduate students can have limited opportunities to apply for grants and fellowships to conduct international research and to access funds for conference travel to disseminate their research results. To address this issue, AAP and ASC have established the **Student Research Fellowship**.

Eligibility requirements for this opportunity are as follows:

- **All applicants** must be a graduate student currently enrolled in a degree-granting program at one of [AAP's ten African university consortium members](#) or at MSU.
- **MSU applicants for research funds** must secure affiliation with an African university, institution, or organization in the country to which they are traveling and for the time in which they will conduct their research.
- **Applicants from the ten AAP African university consortium members** must be supervised by an academic mentor at their home institution who is collaborating with an MSU faculty member. The student must be hosted by the MSU faculty member/department.

- **All applicants for research funds** must successfully complete their university requirements related to doing research (e.g., approved research plans, ethical conduct of research or IRB, training and approvals, etc.).
- **All fellowship recipients** must return to their home university as registered students in the semester or term following the award.
- **All fellowship recipients** must be in good academic standing, and priority will be given to underrepresented students and those with demonstrated financial need.
- **All fellowship recipients** must write and submit a report on their research and experiences within one month of their return from the research trip or conference travel. The report template will be provided to students upon their award.

Funding

- Each research fellowship will be up to \$2,000, awarded for travel and/or fieldwork expenses.
- Each conference travel fellowship will be up to \$1,000 and will be on a reimbursable basis.
- Applicants for research and conference travel fellowships should specify all other funding sources, if applicable.
- For students from AAP consortium members, funds will be provided to the MSU host faculty member to pay for travel costs directly.
- For students from MSU, funds will be provided either via the home department or via another method; AAP and ASC will work with students on a case-by-case basis on fund transfer.

Selection Process

The Student Research Fellowship is administered by AAP or ASC, depending on the category of funds requested. The timeline is as follows:

- **Applications are accepted on a rolling basis from November 1 through May 30, 2025, subject to funding availability. The application process may close early if all funds are awarded before May 30, 2025.**
- All funding must be transferred to recipients by **June 13, 2025**.

Application Process

Research funding

Applicants must complete an online application that includes the following documents. *Please note that some documents require a template that is provided below. Click the following link to access the application:

https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5j1eVEUrxL87FzM

1) Cover letter. Within the cover letter please include the following information:

- a. Explain interest in the fellowship and how it furthers your scholarly interests
- b. Describe the research topic and its significance
- c. Outline the activities proposed for this trip
- d. Identify the expected outputs from these activities and this trip and how they contribute to your degree program
- e. Provide names, roles, and description of faculty members involved in the project
- f. Identify the university department and/or college that you will collaborate or affiliate with
- g. Provide dates to be spent in country/region

2) Two-page Curriculum Vitae or Resume

3) Transcript

4) Budget

Please use the [budget template](#)

5) Letter from faculty member or individual at the host institution who will supervise your work.

For students from AAP Consortium member institutions: The letter must be from the MSU faculty member (on their department's letterhead) who has agreed to host you during your research trip to MSU. Please use the [host letter template](#)

For MSU students: The letter must be from an individual at the institution you will be affiliated with (on the institution's letterhead) during your research trip. Please use the [host letter template](#)

AAP and ASC will contact the relevant host faculty/organization as part of the selection process.

6) Letter of recommendation

The application must include one letter of recommendation from their advisor or supervisor. The letter must discuss the value of your project and the quality of your work. *The person who writes the letter of recommendation must email the letter directly to aap@msu.edu.

Conference travel funding

Applicants must complete [an online application on the African Studies Center website](#).