



Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowships

A Program of the Bilinski Educational Foundation

Call for Applications **Deadline: March 1, 2017**

The University of New Mexico invites advanced doctoral students in the UNM graduate programs of American Studies, English, Foreign Languages & Literature, History, Linguistics, Philosophy, and Spanish & Portuguese to apply for a Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship. These newly established fellowships in the College of Arts & Sciences will provide valuable financial support for top, meritorious doctoral students with demonstrated financial need who are conducting research for, and or completing, their doctoral dissertations.

Fellowship Overview

Bilinski Fellowships include a \$31,000 stipend per award period (May 15 to July 15 the year after), and health insurance coverage. Applicants must be full-time doctoral students in one of the above programs, having completed all qualifying departmental examinations and course requirements at the University of New Mexico and advanced to candidacy or, at initial selection, advancing to candidacy in the upcoming academic year. Fellowship recipients commit to defending their dissertations within the term of the award. Fellowship Funds will not be awarded if the dissertation has already been substantially completed.

Fellowship Eligibility & Criteria

To be awarded a Bilinski Fellowship, and to remain a Bilinski Fellow, and to be eligible to receive fellowship funds, each student recipient must meet and agree to ALL of the following criteria:

1. Be a full-time doctoral student in one of the graduate programs, who has passed all qualifying examinations and course requirements at the University of New Mexico and advanced to candidacy;
2. Maintain good academic standing at all times;
3. Have demonstrated exceptional ability and potential in his or her field of study;
4. Be a student who needs financial support to complete his or her degree;
5. For each semester (including summer periods) in which Fellowship funds are provided, must devote full-time effort toward dissertation completion;
6. Abide by the University of New Mexico Academic Code of Conduct; and
7. Fellowship Funds are not to be awarded if the dissertation has already been substantially completed.

Additional Eligibility Criteria

To be awarded a Fellowship, and to remain, a Bilinski Fellow, in addition to other eligibility criteria set forth herein, to be eligible to receive an award, a Recipient must be a United States citizen or a Permanent Resident eligible to apply for US citizenship.

Application Process

To be considered for a Bilinski Fellowship, applicants must submit the following materials by the **deadline of 5:00 PM, March 1, 2017**. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

1. Online FAFSA application, filed no later than March 1, at www.fafsa.ed.gov;
2. The Fellowship Application Cover Sheet signed by the applicant and the applicant's advisor (cover sheet available online here);
3. Financial Disclosure Form (form available online here);
4. One-page statement of the student's professional goals as they relate to the advancement of humanities;
5. A proposal describing the dissertation that includes the following sections: proposal narrative (10 pages), bibliography (2 pages), timetable for completion (1 page), all double-spaced;
6. Unofficial transcripts from all post-secondary academic coursework;
7. Curriculum vitae containing applicant's previous education, teaching and research experience, and awards or honors;
8. Letter from the Department Graduate Program Director or the UNM Office of Graduate Studies certifying that the applicant has advanced to candidacy status or will so by the beginning of the upcoming academic year;
9. Status statement on the submission of the dissertation proposal to the UNM Institutional Review Board, or, alternatively, a statement as to why the proposed research is not subject to IRB review;
10. Two recommendation letters on departmental letterhead in signed, sealed envelopes or submitted confidentially online, one from the dissertation chair addressing the applicant's ability to complete the dissertation in the time period allowed by the fellowship;
11. Signed Fellow's Agreement Form for Use of Bilinski Fellowship Funds (form available online here);
12. Signed Statement from Dissertation Chair (form available online here).

Fellowship Selection Process

The Bilinski Fellowship Selection Committee will select top doctoral fellows based on the eligibility criteria presented above with an emphasis on both merit and financial need, as well as additional information included in the student's application packet. The duration of the fellowship may be determined at the discretion of the Bilinski Fellowship Selection Committee. Fellowship recipients will be announced the first week of May, 2017. For additional information, contact Suzanne Schadl at schadl@unm.edu or Lorenzo Garcia at lfgarcia@unm.edu. Submit application materials to Bilinski Fellowship, Office of the Dean, UNM College of Arts & Sciences, MSC03 2120, Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001. The Office of the Dean is located at the UNM Main Campus in Ortega Hall, Room 201.



About the Bilinski Educational Foundation

Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski's goal in life was to be independent and challenged intellectually. They strongly believed in people being self-sufficient, ambitious, and above all, responsible. Both Russell and Dorothy were true intellectuals, as well as being adventuresome, independent and driven. Russell was a researcher, academician and an entrepreneur. Dorothy was an accomplished artist and patron of the arts. Russell and Dorothy believed that education was a means to obtain independence, and this is the legacy they wished to pass on to others.

In furtherance of that goal, when Russell and Dorothy died, they left a significant gift for the formation of a nonprofit corporate foundation. The Bilinski Educational Foundation seeks to fulfill this legacy by providing fellowship funds for post-secondary education for students who have demonstrated, and are likely to maintain, both the highest academic achievement and good moral character, but who lack the financial resources to pay for the highest caliber post-secondary education.