



FAQs: Major Fellowships

Prepared by Stephanie Moore, Research Grants Coordinator, Arts Division

Do you need an extended period of time to focus on your research and/or creative practice? If so, it's never too early to start thinking about applying for major fellowships.

Are there fellowships for creative work?

While there are more fellowships for scholarly research, several fellowships on this list support creative work. I will continue to announce grants for creative practice throughout the year, including several with fall deadlines (e.g. Cal Humanities Documentary, MAP Fund, etc.). Contact me if you would like to strategize on how to generate more grants for your work.

Aren't these applications onerous?

While they do require thought and preparation, project statements are typically only five to ten (double-spaced) pages plus a CV, a brief budget, bibliography, reference letters, and work samples (or sample publications).

Is it worth applying for such competitive awards?

UCSC faculty have won almost every award on this list. While they are highly competitive, you can increase your chances of securing a fellowship by applying for those that best align with your work and starting your application well ahead of time.

How early should I start preparing my application?

Review the fellowships now and let me know what interests you. I'm happy to meet, Skype, email, go for walk, etc. to refine your project idea this spring or summer. Summer break (= 3 months before fall deadlines) is a great time to polish your work samples, review successful applications, draft your narrative, get feedback on your project from colleagues, and line up your reference letter writers.

Will you review my application materials?

Absolutely! Let me know now if you are interested in applying and I will calendar a date to review your application 4-6 weeks prior to the due date. Prior to that moment, I can review an abstract, track down answers to your questions, and alert you to webinars/other info that will make your application competitive.

Do you have sample applications?

The Arts Division is collecting successful applications to share with fellow faculty members. If you have won a fellowship/grant in the past three years and would like to share your application, please send it to me.

Should I put this off until I have more time?

As those leisurely moments are too few and far between, open it now and zip me an email if anything piques your interest. The ball will be rolling.