

NCAA Research Committee 2014 Graduate Student Research Grant Program Call for Proposals

The NCAA Research Committee is pleased to announce the 2014 NCAA Graduate Student Research Grant Program. The program's goals are: (1) to stimulate research on college athletics; (2) to foster contributions to the empirical research on college athletics; (3) to provide financial support to graduate students interested in engaging in high-quality research related to college athletics; and (4) to assist NCAA-member institutions and the general public in gaining access to new, outstanding research in this field.

The NCAA Research Committee invites research proposals within the general topic areas of student-athlete well-being and college athletics participation. Graduate students studying topics of specific interest to the NCAA and its membership, while demonstrating the competencies necessary to successfully complete the proposed study, will receive the highest consideration. Research topics may include *but are not limited to*:

- The impact of participation in intercollegiate athletics on the academic or social experiences of student-athletes;
- Best practices for academic support of student-athletes;
- The relationship between athletics time demands and academic success;
- Student-athlete integration into the campus community;
- Finances of intercollegiate athletics;
- Student-athlete satisfaction with the college experience;
- Diversity and inclusion issues in intercollegiate athletics;
- Analytic philosophical/historical accounts of intercollegiate athletics; and
- Student-athlete well-being, health and safety

Award Details

The research grant is a one-time award set at a maximum of \$7,500. Total funding will be provided upon approval of the proposal. In most cases, awardees may choose whether to have funds sent directly to them or to their institutions. Institutions may not charge indirect costs. Grant recipients will be provided with an expense paid trip to the annual NCAA Research Committee meeting to present their research proposal and will have the opportunity to interact with and receive feedback from the committee and NCAA staff members. The research is expected to be culminated in an article suitable for publication in a scholarly journal, or in a completed master's thesis or doctoral dissertation. Recipients will also be expected to submit a brief summary of the research that is suitable for publication on the NCAA website and/or the NCAA Champion magazine in addition to a final paper.

Eligibility

Research grants are available for graduate students only and are intended to support the student while conducting research to be used for a doctoral dissertation, master's thesis, or external publication in a scholarly journal. To be eligible for funding, students must be enrolled in graduate school at an NCAA member institution, and the proposed research must be in progress during the award period. Completed studies are not eligible to receive funding.

Submission Rules & Deadline

All grant materials should be electronically submitted via email with the subject line "Grant Submission", and all materials attached in PDF form. Please submit materials to Dr. Tiese Roxbury (troxbury@ncaa.org) by 11:59 p.m. on **August 10, 2014**.

It is preferred that letters of reference be included with the application materials and sent as a package. However, letters will be accepted separately if received by the submission deadline. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Contact Dr. Roxbury, 317-917-6811 or troxbury@ncaa.org, if you have questions regarding the submission process.

Application Requirements

All submissions for the 2014 NCAA Graduate Student Research Grant must include the following materials:

1. **Proposal**. The research proposal should not exceed eight double-spaced pages. This page count does not include the title page, abstract, or references. The proposal should be structured as follows:
 - a. **Title Page**. Include the research study title, name and institution of principal investigator(s).
 - b. **Abstract**. (250 word maximum). The abstract should be a brief summary of the proposal's key points.
 - c. **Introduction**. Introduce the issues/theories/programs to be addressed by your research, including the study's research questions. Be sure to include the rationale for the study.
 - d. **Literature Review**. Provide a summary of literature that is relevant to the current study.
 - e. **Methodology**. Describe the research methodology. Be sure to address the research questions and include information about the research design, data collection, sample/subject selection, instruments/protocols and data analysis.
 - f. **Significance/Potential Implications**. Discuss the significance of the research and the practical application to the field and to the NCAA.
 - g. **References**.
2. **Timeline**. List the beginning and termination dates for the proposed research. A list of the projected dates of completion of major milestones in the progress of proposed research should be included. This list must include a date for submission of the final report.
3. **Brief Outline of Budget**. Prospective grant recipients must provide justification for how funds will be used in the research project. The line item budget should not total more than the maximum award amount, \$7,500. Funds may be used to provide tuition relief.
4. **Copies of any survey instruments or other written materials that will be used in the study**.
5. **Graduate Transcript**. Please provide the most current transcript from your graduate program.
6. **Resume/Curriculum Vitae**. Please attach your resume or curriculum vitae.

7. **Reference Letters.** A minimum of two reference letters must be provided. Letters should be from graduate advisors, professors or others who can speak to the specifics of the research proposal and the researcher's ability to successfully carry out the study.
8. **Human Participants Certification.** If this research involves the use of human participants, certification must be provided that this proposal has been or is in the process of being reviewed by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) or human subjects committee of the originating institution, in compliance with the Department of Health and Human Services policy on protection of human subjects. Funds will not be released until human participants approval has been granted for the proposed study.

Selection Criteria

Each proposal will be evaluated using the following criteria and point system:

1. The importance of the topic to the field and to the NCAA (*30 points*);
2. The strength of the methodological approach (*25 points*);
3. The appropriateness of proposed analyses (*20 points*);
4. The contribution to literature or ability to produce new knowledge (*15 points*); and
5. The acceptability of the proposed budget (*10 points*).

When reviewing the proposals and submitted documentation, the review panel will consider the following questions:

- Is the student's research question clearly defined?
- What literature already exists on this topic?
- How does the methodology relate specifically to the research question?
- Is there a high likelihood that the study can be carried out as designed?
- Does the analytic plan fit the question and the data?
- Is the applicant qualified to successfully carry out the proposed study?
- Will this study contribute to the field?

Grant recipients are encouraged to consult with the NCAA research staff regarding their proposed research prior to submitting a proposal.

Grant Decisions

The NCAA Research staff will conduct an initial review of all completed proposals to ensure they meet the submission requirements. Proposals that meet the requirements will then be reviewed by the NCAA Research Committee, which is comprised of athletics administrators and faculty who collaborate with the NCAA research department staff to produce high-quality research on issues related to college athletics.

The NCAA Research Committee will make final funding decisions, and applicants will be notified of the status of their submission by **November 30, 2014**. Reviewer comments will be made available to interested applicants after the grant recipients are chosen.

Past Grant Recipients

2007 Grant Program Awards

In 2007, the NCAA Research Committee awarded four grants through the Graduate Student Research Grant Program:

- *Predictors of Retirement Distress among Male Former Intercollegiate Athletics in Revenue- Producing Sports* by Mercedes Carswell, Michigan State University.
- *Exploring the Relationship between Athletic Injury and Coaching Behavior* by Sarah Halbert, Miami University.
- *Perceptions of Stakeholder Salience and Dimensions of Influence for Campus Student-Athlete Advisory Committees in Governance of Intercollegiate Athletics* by Lori Hendricks, University of Michigan.
- *A Chameleon on the Court: Understanding Factors that Contribute to Invisibility/Visibility for Division I Intercollegiate Gay-Athletes*, by Paul Tontz, University of Denver.

2008 Grant Program Awards

In 2008, the Research Committee awarded four grants through the Graduate Student Research Grant Program:

- *Impact of Organizational Culture on Graduation Rates of NCAA Division I HBCU Athletes: A Case Study* by Ralph Charlton of the College of William and Mary.
- *Predicting Academic Success for Student-Athletes: A Comparative Study* by Tiese Roxbury, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
- *Perceptions of "Others": The Role of Heterosexism in the Decline of College Women Coaches*, Amy Sandler, University of Nevada Las Vegas.
- *Enhancing the Student-Athlete Experience: Understanding Sense of Community from a Student- Athlete's Perspective*, Stacy Warner, University of Texas at Austin.

2009 Grant Program Awards

In 2009, the NCAA Research Committee awarded three grants through the Graduate Student Research Grant Program:

- *Faculty Senates Perceptions of College Athletics* by Amber Falluca, University of South Carolina.
- *The College Adjustment of African American Student-Athletes at Predominately White Institutions and Historically Black Colleges and Universities* by Sheriece Sadberry, University of Missouri, Columbia.
- *Physical Self-Concept and Athletic Identity Among Former Collegiate Athletes: Examining the Influence on Self* by Jennifer Shannon, University of Missouri, Columbia.

2010 Grant Program Awards

In 2010, the NCAA Research Committee awarded three grants through the Graduate Student Research Grant Program:

- *Black Male College Athletes: Capital and Educational Outcomes* by Ginelle John, New York University.
- *Exploring the Relationship Between Athletic Expenditures and Team On-Field Success*, by Willis Jones, Vanderbilt University.
- *Examining the Role of Challenges, Resiliency, Leadership Self-Efficacy, Support and Feedback on Women Leaders in Intercollegiate Athletic Careers* by Moe Machida, Michigan State University.

2011 Grant Program Awards

In 2011, the NCAA Research Committee awarded three grants through the Graduate Student Research Grant Program:

- *Crowding-Out Effects of Athletic Giving on Academic Giving at NCAA Division I, II, and III Institutions* by Win Koo, University of Arkansas.
- *What Matters to Student-Athletes in College Experiences* by Yan Zhao, Boston College.
- *Do Nice Guys Really Finish Last? Exploring the Relationships Between Ethical Conduct, Motivation, and Satisfaction in Academic and Athletic Domains* by Mariya Yukhymenko, University of Connecticut.

2012 Grant Program Awards

In 2012, the NCAA Research Committee and the NCAA Health & Safety department awarded four grants through the Graduate Student Research Grant Program:

- *Tweeting for Alma Mater: The Impact of Student-Athlete Accounts on Social Networking Sites*, by Mujde Yuksel, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
- *Why Do Some Sickle Cell Carrier Athletes Suffer from Heat Illness?* by Carroll Flansburg, University of South Florida.
- *Institutional Concussion Education and Within Season Change in Concussion-Related Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviors on Male Collegiate Ice Hockey Teams* by Emily Kroshus, Harvard University.
- *Student-Athlete Attitudes Toward Seeking Mental-Health Help* by Rachel Wahto, University of Alaska, Anchorage.

2013 Grant Program Awards

In 2013, the NCAA Research Committee and the NCAA Sport Science Institute awarded seven grants through the Graduate Student Research Grant Program:

- *The Student-Athlete Experience: An Analysis of Stress and Social Support in NCAA Collegiate Athletics* by Sarah Hatteberg, Indiana University, Bloomington.
- *The Impact of Mindfulness-Acceptance-Commitment Approach on Psychological Functioning in Student-Athletes* by Blakely Low, Texas Tech University.
- *Examining the Role of Intercollegiate Athletics Recruitment Practices on Men's Lacrosse Student-Athletes: A Critical Look at the NCAA Division III Recruiting Model* by Marie Stroman, University of Washington.
- *Redshirting and Academic Performance: Evidence from NCAA Student-Athletes* by Ethan Wilkes, Montana State University.
- *Temporal Changes in Depression and Neurocognitive Performance in Male and Female Collegiate Student-Athletes: A Longitudinal Evaluation Pre- and Post-Concussion Injury* by Lindsey McGuire, Temple University
- *Advanced EEG Assessment of Concussive and Subconcussive Injury in College Athletes* by Ezra Smith, University of Arizona
- *The Influence of Collegiate Softball Coaches on the Alcohol Use of Their Athletes* by Michelle Pitts, University of Nevada, Las Vegas