



INTERNATIONAL BUDDHIST EDUCATION FOUNDATION

***3456 S. Glenmark Dr.,
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745***

International Buddhist Education Foundation (IBEF) Graduate Student Research Grant Eligibility and Application

The International Buddhist Education Foundation (IBEF) was established in the spring of 2006. Since its inception, an average of 40 students have been awarded scholarships funded by IBEF. The scholarship awards have provided \$4,500 each semester for PhD students and DBMin monastic students; and \$3,500 each semester for MA and MDiv students.

IBEF has also provided fellowship to students in the amount of \$3,000 each semester for PhD students and DBMin monastic students; and \$2,000 each semester for MA and MDiv students. These awards require the students to meet a minimum requirement of 3.0 GPA and 150 hours of campus work.

IBEF Scholarship and Fellowship programs have benefited monastic students and students from many different countries such as United States, Taiwan, China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Burma, Lebanon, and Nigeria. From the spring of 2006 to the spring of 2019, a total of 1,050 students have received IBEF scholarship and fellowship in the amount of \$3,754,580 to support them in the study of Buddhism at University of the West.

In 2018-19 school year, the IBEF has embarked on a new initiative, the **IBEF Graduate Student Research Grant** to provide PhD and DBMin candidates who are committed to the study of Humanistic Buddhism, and to complete the intended respective degrees while attending University of the West. The award of this new grant will commence school year 2019-2020.

Eligibility:

- Must be a graduate student enrolled at the University of the West with good academic standing;
- Must be a graduate student has advanced to candidacy for a PhD degree and registered for a minimum of 3 credit hours as he/she conducts the respective proposed and approved dissertation research, or
- Must be a monastic graduate student has advanced to candidacy for a DBMin degree and registered for a minimum of 3 credit hours as he/she conducts the respective proposed and approved project.

Grants available:

A. Master Hsing Yun Dissertation Fellowships in Humanistic Buddhism

Provide four consecutive semesters stipends to PhD candidate for preparation of dissertations or to DBMin monastic candidate for preparation of project. The fellowship period may be used for archival research, fieldwork, analysis of collected data, or for writing after research is complete.

Revised: 06/10/2019

The topic areas of dissertation and project for receiving this fellowship are suggested as below.

	Topic area
1	Topics related to the social engagement activity of Fo Guang Shan temples and/or Buddha's Light International Association worldwide
2	Chinese Buddhism and modern society
Annual number of fellowships: Unlimited	

Fellowship details

- Stipend of \$24,000 (\$12,000 annually);
- Tenure: 4 semesters;
- Service hours: 50 hours per funding semester (Details will be announced at the beginning of each funding semester);
- Evaluation of working progress: at the end of 2nd funding semester or the first anniversary;
- For the travel and other expenses attributed to conduct research as stated in applicant's dissertation or project proposal to the specified location of Fo Guang Shan temple, additional travel grant may be offered upon the request in additional written application;
- For the additional stipend of granted fellowship beyond its tenured period, applicant must specify and detail the reason for applying additional stipend for the same dissertation prospectus in written format, with the comment and original signature of applicant's chair of Advisor committee. The additional amount of stipend beyond the tenured period is not guaranteed.

Eligibility

- Pursuit of the PhD degree offered by the Department of Religious Studies or DBMin degree offered by Department of Buddhist Chaplaincy;
- Completion of all requirements for the PhD degree except research and writing of the dissertation (the equivalent of ABD in the US system), or for the DBMin degree except research and furnishing of the project. A successful applicant, before being named a Fellow, must provide confirmation of ABD status or equivalent status from UWest official;
- The application and copy of the dissertation or project prospectus, which has been approved by applicant's chair of Advisor committee, must be written in English by the applicant;
- Individual is only allowed to receive any type of IBEF dissertation fellowship one time for pursuing the PhD degree or DBMin degree in UWest;
- There are no restrictions as to the citizenship/residence of applicants.

Selection Criteria

- Significance of the topic and its potential contribution to the study of Humanistic Buddhism;
- Feasibility of the plan of work;
- Potential of the applicant for an academic career in Buddhist studies or in monastic community.

B. IBEF Dissertation Fellowships in Buddhist Studies

Provide four consecutive semesters stipends to PhD candidate for preparation of dissertations or DBMin monastic candidate for preparation of project. The fellowship period may be used for archival research, fieldwork, analysis of collected data, or for writing after research is complete. The topic areas of dissertation and project for receiving this fellowship are suggested as below.

Topic area			
1	Mahayana Buddhist traditions	5	Mindfulness and Buddhism
2	Theravada Buddhist traditions	6	Arts, Literature, and Buddhism
3	Vajrayana Buddhist traditions	7	Comparative studies of Buddhism and other religious traditions
4	Language and Buddhism		
Annual number of fellowships: 5 (Maximum)			

Fellowship details

- Stipend of \$20,000 (\$10,000 annually);
- Tenure: 4 semesters;
- Service Hours: 50 hours per funding semester (Details will be announced at the beginning of each funding semester);
- Evaluation of working progress: at end of 2nd funding semester or the first anniversary;
- No additional stipend of granted fellowship beyond its tenured period.

Eligibility

- Pursuit of the PhD degree offered by the Religious Department or DBMin degree offered by Department of Buddhist Chaplaincy;
- Completion of all requirements for the PhD degree except research and writing of the dissertation (the equivalent of ABD in the US system), or for the DBMin degree except research and furnishing of the project. A successful applicant, before being named a Fellow, must provide confirmation of ABD status or equivalent status from UWest official;
- The application and copy of the dissertation prospectus or project approved by applicant's chair of Advisor committee, must be written in English by the applicant;
- Individual is only allowed to receive any type of IBEF dissertation fellowship one time for pursuing the PhD degree or DBMin degree in UWest;
- There are no restrictions as to the citizenship/residence of applicants.

Selection Criteria

- Significance of the topic and its potential contribution to Buddhist studies;
- Feasibility of the plan of work;
- Potential of the applicant for an academic career in Buddhist studies or monastic community.

Fellowship work:

- Students selected shall be notified by the IBEF Liaison Officer individually;
- Number of awards are based on the various areas of concentration or study. IBEF reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of awardees;
- Fellowship recipients need to renew his/her Fellow status at the end of each funding semester, evidenced by Dissertation/Project Committee Chair's recommendation to continue receiving remaining fund;
- Fellowship recipients need to be evaluated by the Institute for the Study of Humanistic Buddhism (ISHB) at the end of second funding semester or the first anniversary on their research work progress. Each Fellowship recipient needs to submit the most up-to-date publication or successful acceptance of his/her research work in the academic conference or workshop such as AAR/AAR regional, AAS/AAS regional, or any type of graduate student conference in the United States (with name and topic listed in the program or agenda of such conference or workshop, or other related artifacts). The result will deliver to their individual Chair and IBEF for further advising purpose.

Application Deadline:

- May 1 - for grants in the fall semester
- November 15 - for grants in the spring semester

Renewal Deadline:

- May 1 - for grants to continue financial support in the fall semester
- November 15 - for grants to continue financial support in the spring semester

Required Documents for Initial Application:

- a) Completed IBEF Research Grant application form
- b) Approved dissertation or project proposal/prospectus with Committee Chair approval and expected completion date
- c) Three letters of recommendation (one must be from the Dissertation Committee Chair)
- d) Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5
- e) Curriculum Vitae including evidence of presentation or lectures at conferences, workshops, or other professional settings.

Renewal Requirements:

- Writing Recommendation from the Dissertation/Project Committee Chair, including an assessment of the quality and relevance of the work that the student has accomplished;
- Completion of 50 service hours per semester.

Disbursement/Payment Process:

Based on current university disbursement/reimbursement process and procedure aligned with IBEF policy.



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IBEF Research Grant Application Form

Please indicate the semester for which you are applying Spring Fall _____(year)

Please indicate the fellowship you are applying Hsing Yun Dissertation IBEF Dissertation

Name

Student ID number: _____

First Middle Last

Mailing address Check here if address has changed in Registrar record

Street City State Zip Code

Phone Number (_____)_____-____ E-Mail _____

Gender: Male Female Date of Birth: _____(MM/DD/YYYY)

Are you a monastic? Yes No Dharma Name: _____

If yes, please provide the name of the order or lineage with which you are associated:

Citizenship (Please circle) U.S. Citizen /Permanent Resident F-1 Visa Student
 R-1 Visa Student Other, Specify _____

Degree Program (Please circle) PhD DBMin

Current Academic Major and Area of Concentration _____

Name of the Chair of Dissertation/Project Committee _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Chair of Committee Signature _____ Date _____

Document Attached:

- Approved dissertation / project proposal
- Letter of recommendation (three)
- Curriculum Vitae