Application Guidelines for the Harry Frank Guggenheim African Fellow Awards

The Foundation welcomes proposals from any of the natural and social sciences, or allied disciplines, that promise to increase understanding of the causes, manifestations, and control of violence and aggression. Highest priority is given to research that can increase understanding and amelioration of urgent problems of violence and aggression in the modern world.

Priority is given to work that addresses urgent, present-day problems of violence—what produces it, how it operates, and what prevents or reduces it.

The Foundation is interested in violence related to many subjects, including, but not limited to, the following:

- War
- Crime
- Terrorism
- Family and intimate-partner relationships
- Climate instability and natural resource competition
- Racial, ethnic, and religious conflict
- Political extremism and nationalism

The Foundation supports research that investigates the basic mechanisms in the production of violence, but primacy is given to proposals that make a compelling case for the relevance of potential findings for policies intended to reduce these ills. Likewise, historical research is considered to the extent that it is relevant to a current situation of violence. Examinations of the effects of violence are welcome insofar as a strong case is made that these outcomes serve, in turn, as causes of future violence.

The African Fellow Awards

The Harry Frank Guggenheim African Fellow Awards (formerly the Harry Frank Guggenheim Young African Scholars) recognize African doctoral candidates studying aspects of violence on or directly related to the African continent.

Every two years, the Foundation selects a cohort of Harry Frank Guggenheim African Fellows. A dozen emerging scholars based at African universities are awarded a two-year fellowship for PhD projects judged to be of high quality and closely relevant to the Foundation's interest in violence.

The African Fellow Awards include in-person research methods, writing, and publishing workshops, fieldwork research grants of $10,000 each, long-term mentorship from senior African and Africanist scholars, sponsorship at an international conference to present research findings, and editorial and publication support.

Timing

Candidates for the African Fellow Awards may apply online biannually between November 15 and January 15. Applications must be submitted by January 15 (11:59:00 p.m. ET), for a decision in March. Applicants will be informed promptly by email of the Foundation's decision.

Education and Citizenship

Applicants for the African Fellows program may be citizens of any country on the continent. They must be currently enrolled in an accredited PhD program at an African higher education institution, and living on the continent. Non-PhD candidates are not eligible to take part in the program.

Award Components

The African Fellow Awards involve several in-person meetings. It is expected that fellows are available to attend and fully participate in all aspects of the program including: a research methods workshop, a writing workshop, The African Studies Association of the UK (ASA UK) biannual meeting, and the HFG publishing workshop. In addition to these meetings, participants will be paired with a program mentor; a senior African or Africanist scholar who

will support them through the research and writing portion of a paper derived from their dissertation.

Budget Guidelines

Proposals should be accompanied by a precise budget. Please refer to the budget worksheet at https://www.hfg.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/HFG-Budget-Worksheet.pdf. This should be 1) downloaded, 2) completed and saved, and 3) uploaded to the budget section of the application. In addition to the budget worksheet, you will need to submit a budget explanation that justifies each item in the worksheet.

The Foundation does not supply funds for overhead costs of institutions, travel to professional meetings, self-education, costly laboratory or field equipment, or dissemination of research findings.

As noted above, the African Fellows grant consists of $10,000 over two years. We will not contribute a portion of costs to graduate research with other funding unless an independent "Guggenheim component" of the research can be identified and shown to make a difference to what can be accomplished by the larger dissertation.

Fieldwork

The Foundation funds the costs of fieldwork, including travel, living expenses, local research assistance, insurance, transcription costs, necessary software/equipment, visa fees, gifts/remuneration for informants or survey participants, and other relevant expenditures. As with any other requests, these items should be thoughtfully justified:
Requests for airfare/travel expenses should be accompanied, if possible, by documentation of the average price for economy-class tickets.

When requesting funds for vehicle rental/local transportation, please give an approximation of how much these services will cost per day.

Per diem living expenses should represent an honest estimate of the costs of the research proposed. If an applicant is not familiar with the average living expenses where they will be working, they might consult with regional experts.

AI Use in Grant Applications

Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools have many valuable and legitimate applications in the conduct of scholarly research, and, accordingly, HFG considers such uses to be acceptable elements of research design. HFG requires that any such uses be fully explained.

HFG also believes that an indispensable part of scholarship is clearly articulating the methods and findings of one's research and that the process of doing so entails sharpening and, often, revising one's thinking. A submission *written* by AI, therefore, does not reliably indicate the quality of an applicant's thinking or ability to convey it clearly.

In reviewing grant applications, The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation *will not consider* LOIs or applications that appear to be written entirely, or in significant part, by AI if an examination by AI-detection tools so indicates. (In its evaluation, HFG will take reasonable steps to protect the privacy of an applicant's submission, including by prohibiting its retention by detection tools.)

Application Procedure

Applications are submitted online. The application link can be found on our website, HFG.org. The direct address is https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=hfg. Applicants must first create a login account to access the online application. The deadline for submission is January 15 (11:59:00 p.m. ET). Late applications will not be considered.

A. Project Title

Complete all questions in this section that are applicable to your proposed project. Some questions are required; these are marked with an asterisk (*).

B. Abstract and Survey

Enter an abstract by typing or pasting text. (Note the length limit.) The abstract should be an informative but succinct description of the project, including its relevance to aggression and/or violence. The survey questions—about the topics, time period, and geographic region of your project—are for statistical purposes only; this information does not affect our evaluation of the application.

C. Budget

Please consult "Budget Guidelines" above.

D. Budget Justification

Upload a document explaining the need for and planned use of the funds requested for each item in each category of the worksheet completed in D.

E. Applicant CV & Proof of Age

Upload your CV which should not exceed two pages. Also be sure to upload a copy of your passport or state-issued ID that clearly states your age and nationality.

F. Research Plan

Upload a document presenting the specific aims of your dissertation and discuss the background and significance of the proposed work. Describe the methods and procedures of the research and the means by which the results will be analyzed and interpreted. Indicate your familiarity with the relevant scholarly literature, and explain how your project will complement or improve upon it. Research plans should be 10–15 double-spaced pages (not including references listed in a bibliography or footnotes).

G. Other Support

List any and all financial support administered or sought for this project, such as institutional, research or writing grants. If no other applications have been or will be submitted, please so state.

H. Protection of Subjects

Explain what steps will be taken to protect the rights and welfare of any human subjects who might be involved in the research. If non-human animals are to be used in the project, discuss how the animals will be cared for so that they will not suffer unnecessary discomfort, pain, and injury. If these concerns are not applicable to the project, please so state.

I. Academic Advisor Reference Letter

A letter from your advisor must be uploaded by the advisor using our online system. In the section of the online application headed “Advisor Letter,” please follow the instructions to enter your advisor’s email address and then click “Compose Email.” The system will prompt you to write an email to your advisor asking that they provide a letter. They will receive a

second email from our system with a link to upload their letter. Academic Advisors should give us their opinion of the merit of the proposal, the procedures involved, and the applicant's ability to complete the project successfully. The letters must be uploaded by January 15.

J. Electronic Signature

Completing this section is equivalent to signing your application by hand.