

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Ph.D. Students

From: **David E. Weinstein**  
Executive Director, Program for Economic Research

Date: January 30, 2019

Re: **PER Grants | Policy & Guidelines**

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The Program for Economic Research (PER) supports the research of graduate students in the Department of Economics. The program also serves as the liaison for information on funding opportunities and other resources.

Effective January 30, 2019, PER will fund a limited number of graduate students who seek to undertake research projects that may require initial results or proof of concept to attract external funding. We will provide grants for projects pursuing basic economic inquiry and policy-related study.

PER's grant program has the following goals:

- To provide support for students in the development of innovative, transformative research projects in the field of economics.
- To provide support for students who wish to purchase datasets for their Ph.D. research.

Proposals are evaluated on the intellectual merit and innovation of the proposed project, on the grant's relationship to the proposed project, on the project's organization and judicious use of funds, and on the plausibility of the student's plan to scale the project.

**Applications for grant funding are accepted three times a year, and in response to calls for proposals during the academic year.**

**The deadlines are as follows: September 15, December 15 and April 15.**

**Eligibility**

- Applicants must be full-time Ph.D. students in the Department of Economics.
- The PER grant program places a priority on work that identifies new areas of methodological innovation, or that bridges different substantive domains. Projects may be domestic, international, or comparative.

**Budgets for PER Grants**

- PER grant funding is typically up to \$5k per project and is limited to funding direct costs of research. If you would like to discuss your budget prior to submission of your proposal, please contact Sophia Johnson.

**Funding Timeline, IRB, and Reporting**

- Research projects involving human subjects must obtain (and keep up to date) Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. If your project involves no intervention or interaction with human subjects, you must apply for exemption from the IRB. We will review and consider proposals that have not yet undergone IRB review, but please note that PER will not disburse funds until we have received a copy of your project's IRB approved protocol or IRB letter of exemption. We strongly encourage you to start the process of obtaining IRB approval early.
- Grant recipients must provide brief report on project activities at the end of the academic year.
- Grants recipients should acknowledge PER's support in any papers, publications, or reports resulting from grant activities.