

# The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation

## Program Description

**The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Dissertation Fellowships in Buddhist Studies** provide stipends to PhD candidates for full time preparation of dissertations. The ten-month fellowship period may be used for fieldwork, archival research, analysis of findings, or writing after research is complete. There are two types of support: **research fellowships** for fieldwork or archival investigations and **writing fellowships** for use after research is complete to write the dissertation.

All topics, periods, and approaches in Buddhist Studies are welcome.

## FELLOWSHIP DETAILS

- Stipend: \$35,000 and an award supplement of up to \$5,000 for childcare/elder care, health insurance, learned society conference attendance, or related professional training.
- Tenure: 10 consecutive months, starting by September 30, 2026, devoting full time to the dissertation. No other employment is permitted during the fellowship period.
- The total award should be used for expenses associated with the fellowship work, not for tuition or other university fees. Home universities are requested to waive fees for fellows while allowing access to university facilities during the fellowship year. If university policy or regulations prevent the university from following this procedure, the university should be willing to negotiate with ACLS an alternative, mutually acceptable formula that avoids the necessity for the fellow to use the fellowship stipend for university fees. This fellowship cannot be held concurrently with any other fellowship or grant. University administrators may find more information [here](https://www.acls.org/information-for-institutional-administrators/) (https://www.acls.org/information-for-institutional-administrators/).

## SPECIFICATION OF RESEARCH OR WRITING FELLOWSHIPS

Applicants must apply for one of these two categories of support. The proposal should state clearly how much work on the dissertation has already been accomplished and in what specific ways progress would be advanced by a fellowship.

Applications for **research fellowships** should identify the research question(s), the sources to be investigated, criteria by which relevant information will be selected, the location of the project in the disciplinary literature, the methodology and approach to the subject matter, and tentative conclusions.

Applications for **writing fellowships** should state the main thesis or claim, review the sources investigated and secondary literature consulted, and indicate, if possible, an outline of chapters. The proposal should also state what materials have been collected, how research questions might have been answered or modified, and the direction that analysis will take once writing has begun.

ACLS selection committees understand the problem posed by timing – often, applications for writing are composed in the midst of fieldwork or archival research, at a time when all relevant materials have not yet been collected and the dissertation’s argument might be still inchoate. Applicants should address this problem directly in the proposal,

describing as accurately as possible what they have accomplished as of the application deadline and how they envision their dissertations taking shape during the period of the writing fellowship.

## ELIGIBILITY

- Pursuit of the PhD degree at an accredited university anywhere in the world.
- Applicants must have ABD (All But Dissertation) status or equivalent by April 15, 2026. ABD status indicates completion of all doctorate coursework requirements and comprehensive exams for a PhD degree. Upon reaching ABD status, PhD students become PhD candidates and focus on research and writing of a dissertation and defending a doctoral thesis.
  - (At the time of application) an institutional representative (e.g., department chair, director of graduate studies, dean) must confirm through the OFA system that the applicant has or is on schedule to have ABD status. This is an online form, not a reference letter.
- The application must be written in English by the applicant.
- There are no restrictions on the location of work proposed or the citizenship/residence of applicants.
- Work proposed must be in the humanities or social sciences (<https://www.acls.org/faqs/acls-faq/>).

## APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Completed applications must be submitted on this website no later than 9:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on November 20, 2025.

Applications must include:

- A completed application form.
- A proposal (no more than five double-spaced pages in Arial or Helvetica 11-point font).
- An optional one to two additional pages of images, musical scores, or other similar supporting non-text materials.
- A bibliography (no more than two pages, with double-spaces between entries in Arial or Helvetica 11-point font).
- An applicant's statement describing the intellectual trajectory and experiences that brought the applicant to the current stage of academic career and that motivate plans for the future (no more than two double-spaced pages in Arial or Helvetica 11-point font).
- *The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies, administered by ACLS, is committed to inclusion, equity, and diversity as integral components of merit that enhance the scholarly enterprise. It is a priority of this program that cohorts of fellows and grantees be broadly inclusive of different backgrounds, cultures, and any aspects that make one unique. In Buddhist Studies we seek a range of university affiliations, as well as diversity in languages, topics, Buddhist traditions, and locations of research. The program welcomes applications from all eligible individuals, and selection is made without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, citizenship, disability, age, or any other aspect of identity.*

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Significance of the topic and its potential contribution to Buddhist Studies.
- Quality of the proposal with regard to its methodology, scope, theoretical framework, and grounding in the relevant scholarly literature.
- Feasibility of the plan of work.
- Potential of the applicant for a career that will make full use of Buddhist Studies expertise.

Continue

# Eligibility

Before beginning your application, you will be asked several questions designed to determine preliminary eligibility for this program. Once you have answered these basic eligibility questions, please read all instructions, including those in the PROPOSAL UPLOAD section, before beginning to fill out the application form.

## Eligibility Check

### 1. Are you a PhD candidate at an accredited university?

Yes  No

### 2. Will you have completed all requirements for the PhD except the dissertation (obtained All But Dissertation Status - ABD or equivalent) by April 15, 2026?

Yes  No

[Continue](#)

# Instructions

## Instructions

You may make as many visits to your application as you wish, and revise any information in your application until it has been submitted. In order to be considered, your application must be complete and in SUBMITTED status at **9:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on November 20, 2025. If relevant, you must complete the INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT section by this time; your university official will have until November 25, 2025, to submit the institutional statement.**

This application consists of three parts: the application form itself, the uploaded documents (see PROPOSAL UPLOAD), and institutional statement (see INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT).

**BEFORE BEGINNING** the application form, please read the instructions regarding the PROPOSAL UPLOAD and the INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT, as well as the following technical instructions.

## A. HOW TO SAVE AND SUBMIT YOUR DATA

1. Do not use your browser's "BACK" or "FORWARD" buttons for navigation. Instead, use the menu on the left to navigate between screens or the "SAVE AND CONTINUE" button at the bottom of each screen to take you to the next application screen.
2. You must **SAVE each time you leave a screen**. If you do not click on SAVE, anything entered since you last hit SAVE on that screen will be lost. (Any work from a previous session will be retained, but any new entries will be lost.) The SAVE button is on the bottom of your screen.
3. You may work on your application in as many sessions as you wish, and the status of your application will be **IN PROCESS** until you submit it. Once you are satisfied that your application is complete, you must go to the SUBMIT APPLICATION screen and select **SUBMIT APPLICATION**. Once your application has been SUBMITTED, it cannot revert to IN PROCESS status.
4. When you have completed your application, pause to check it one last time. We strongly suggest that you print and read your application before submitting it, so that you can be sure there are no further revisions you wish to make. Your print copy should include your uploaded document.
5. Your application status bar must show SUBMITTED at 9:00 PM, Eastern Standard Time on November 20, 2025 in order for it to be considered. ACLS will take no responsibility for applications that are not in SUBMITTED status at the deadline. **Once your application has been SUBMITTED, even if it was submitted before the final deadline, no changes will be permitted.**
6. We strongly urge you to print out and save a copy of the final version of your SUBMITTED application. Your print copy should include your uploaded documents. You can print your application until January 15, 2026.

## B. HOW TO ENTER DATA

1. You may begin completing the application at any section.
2. What you type into the form is exactly what will be seen by our reviewers. Therefore, please fill out the form carefully, paying attention to spelling, punctuation, and grammar. (For instance, do not use all caps.)
3. Text boxes will hold only a limited amount of text. Where longer answers are permitted, the number of available characters will normally be indicated. We suggest that you type rather than paste your response. If

you paste your response, be sure your character count does not exceed the limit: excess text may appear on the screen but will not print and will not be visible to reviewers. Examine your print application to be sure your response is complete.

4. Dates should always be entered in the format mm/yyyy or mm/dd/yyyy where indicated. Where an entry continues into the present, please simply leave the ending date blank (mm/yyyy - [blank]).
5. Begin typing all answers at the extreme left-hand side of the response area or box; do not leave a space or indent at the beginning of your answer.
6. In all dollar amount fields, use only digits. Please do not use the dollar sign or commas.
7. Please avoid using non-Roman characters in the application form as the system cannot process certain characters. Our selection committees understand the technical limitations of the system. Within the Proposal Upload, you may use non-Roman characters, but please view it after uploading to be sure these characters convert properly.

### **C. HOW TO GET HELP**

1. If you have questions about the application process, please consult [FAQ](https://www.acls.org/faqs/faq-the-robert-h-n-ho-family-foundation-program-in-buddhist-studies/) (https://www.acls.org/faqs/faq-the-robert-h-n-ho-family-foundation-program-in-buddhist-studies/). If your question is not answered there, please email [BuddhistStudies@acls.org](mailto:BuddhistStudies@acls.org) (mailto:BuddhistStudies@acls.org).

Good luck with your application!

**Continue**

# Contact Information

The information you enter in the Common Profile sections (Contact, Professional Background, Education) will be retained for this application and copied to any other fellowship or grant application you undertake in this competition year. You may edit the information in future applications; however, it will not overwrite data in previously submitted applications.

## Contact Information

### Salutation

Ms.

### First Name

Sample

### Middle Name/Initial

### Last Name

Application

### Suffix

### Legal First Name

### Legal Middle Name/Initial

### Legal Last Name

(This is the name that you would use on a tax form or with governmental bodies)


### Preferred Pronouns

**Primary Email Address**

buddhiststudies@acl.org

(should be valid through September 2026)

*By applying to an ACLS fellowship or grant program, you agree to receive future email communications from ACLS. You may update your preferences or opt out at any time.*

 **Mailing Information**

**Address**

Four empty text input fields for address details.

**City**

One empty text input field for city.

**US State, if applicable**

Select One 

**Zip/Postal Code**

One empty text input field for zip/postal code.

(if using a ZIP-plus-4 code, please include hyphen)

**Country**

One empty text input field for country.

**Telephone**

(  )  -  , ext.

One empty text input field for telephone details.

(If not United States)

**Which is this address?**

Home 

# Education

## Education

**What is your highest level of education? (If you are a current PhD student or candidate, you must select Pursuing PhD to complete the information for your PhD program.)**

- PhD
- Pursuing PhD
- Master's
- BA/BS

## PhD

**Degree received from**

(To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym or abbreviation.**)

**Country of PhD institution**

**PhD department**

**PhD major discipline**

**Date conferred by university ⓘ**


 /  / 

(mm/dd/yyyy)

**Dissertation title**

(150 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

**Name of dissertation supervisor**

 Master's Degree

**Degree received from**

(To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym or abbreviation.**)

**Select a degree**

**Date degree received**

 / 

(mm/yyyy)

**Master's degree major discipline**

 BA/BS

**Degree received from**

(To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym or abbreviation.**)

**Date received**

/


(mm/yyyy)

**BA/BS major discipline**

 Other Degrees

**List any additional degrees**

(150 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

 Languages

List up to six non-English languages you can use, indicating proficiency in reading, speaking, and writing. (Use *E=Excellent, G=Good, F=Fair or less, N/A=Not applicable.*) If you are either a *Native Speaker* or *Heritage Speaker* of a language, please indicate by checking the appropriate box.

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing	Native Speaker	Heritage Speaker
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing	Native Speaker	Heritage Speaker
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Save Save and Continue

# Education

 Education

**What is your highest level of education? (If you are a current PhD student or candidate, you must select Pursuing PhD to complete the information for your PhD program.)**

- PhD
- Pursuing PhD
- Master's
- BA/BS

 PhD

**Degree to be received from**

(To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym or abbreviation.**)

**Country of PhD institution**

**PhD department**

**PhD major discipline**

**ABD Date** ⓘ

 / 

(mm/yyyy)

**Expected date of dissertation defense (or filing date if institution does not require defense) ⓘ**

03 / 2024

(mm/yyyy)

**Expected date of degree conferral ⓘ**

/ /

(mm/dd/yyyy)

**Dissertation title**

(150 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

**Name of dissertation supervisor**

**Master's Degree**

**Degree received from**

(To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym or abbreviation.**)

**Select a degree**

Select One ▼

**Date degree received**

/

(mm/yyyy)

**Master's degree major discipline**

 BA/BS

**Degree received from**

(To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym or abbreviation.**)

**Date received**

 / 

(mm/yyyy)

**BA/BS major discipline**

 Other Degrees

**List any additional degrees**

(150 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

 Languages

List up to six non-English languages you can use, indicating proficiency in reading, speaking, and writing. (Use *E=Excellent, G=Good, F=Fair or less, N/A=Not applicable.*) If you are either a *Native Speaker* or *Heritage Speaker* of a language, please indicate by checking the appropriate box.

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing	Native Speaker	Heritage Speaker
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	* <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing	Native Speaker	Heritage Speaker
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Save


Save and Continue

# Education

 Education

**What is your highest level of education? (If you are a current PhD student or candidate, you must select Pursuing PhD to complete the information for your PhD program.)**

- PhD
- Pursuing PhD
- Master's
- BA/BS

 Master's Degree

**Degree received from**

(To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym or abbreviation.**)

**Select a degree**

**Date degree received**

 / 

(mm/yyyy)

**Master's degree major discipline**

 BA/BS

**Degree received from**

(To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym or abbreviation.**)

**Date received**

 / 

(mm/yyyy)

**BA/BS major discipline**

 Other Degrees

**List any additional degrees**

(150 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

 Languages

List up to six non-English languages you can use, indicating proficiency in reading, speaking, and writing. (Use *E=Excellent, G=Good, F=Fair or less, N/A=Not applicable.*) If you are either a *Native Speaker* or *Heritage Speaker* of a language, please indicate by checking the appropriate box.

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing	Native Speaker	Heritage Speaker
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="text" value="v"/>	* <input type="text" value="v"/>	* <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="text" value="v"/>	* <input type="text" value="v"/>	* <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing	Native Speaker	Heritage Speaker
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Save Save and Continue

# Education

## Education

**What is your highest level of education? (If you are a current PhD student or candidate, you must select Pursuing PhD to complete the information for your PhD program.)**

- PhD
- Pursuing PhD
- Master's
- BA/BS

## BA/BS

### Degree received from

(To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym or abbreviation.**)

### Date received

 / 


(mm/yyyy)

### BA/BS major discipline

## Other Degrees

### List any additional degrees

(150 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

 Languages

List up to six non-English languages you can use, indicating proficiency in reading, speaking, and writing. (Use *E=Excellent, G=Good, F=Fair or less, N/A=Not applicable.*) If you are either a *Native Speaker* or *Heritage Speaker* of a language, please indicate by checking the appropriate box.

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing	Native Speaker	Heritage Speaker
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="text"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="text"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	* <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Save    Save and Continue

# Professional Background

## Current Position

### Rank / Title

Select One 

(Please choose the most appropriate from the list. If you have no current affiliation, please select "Independent Scholar." If you are applying to a dissertation fellowship, professional background is not required.)

If you do not hold a faculty appointment, what is the exact title of your current position?

(150 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

### Discipline

(Please indicate here the discipline in which you primarily publish, research, and/or teach. This may be included in an academic title, if you hold one, for example Assistant Professor of French Literature, Lecturer of Philosophy, etc. Write only the name of your discipline, not your title.)

### Specialization

### Department

### Institution

To ensure proper processing of your application, your institution's name must be displayed correctly. Enter a few letters of your institution's name to search against our database. **Use the full name, not an acronym**

**or abbreviation.**

**Country of Institution**

**Date you began this position**

 / 

(mm/yyyy)


**Second Institution  
(if applicable)**

If you are currently affiliated with more than one institution, please list the second institution here.

**Date you began this position**

 / 

(mm/yyyy)

 **Positions Held**

List positions held (professional, teaching, administrative, curatorial), beginning with the position immediately preceding the one you currently hold. Give the name of the institution, title, and approximate dates of employment for each.

*Please remember:*

- use only numbers in the date fields, for example, 09/2015
- use the format mm/yyyy throughout
- where an entry continues into the present, leave the "To" field blank

**Institution/Employer**

Title

From

 / 

To

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**Institution/Employer**

Title

From

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To

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**Institution/Employer**

Title

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To

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**Institution/Employer**

Title

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**Institution/Employer**

Title

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Save Save and Continue

# Program Questions

 Fellowship Type

**Check One**

Research Fellowship  Writing Fellowship


 PhD

**Start date of PhD program  
(use start date of MA if earned en route to the PhD)**

/

(mm/yyyy)

**Email address of supervisor**

 Program Question

**If your project involves field research, please describe briefly any training or classes you have received (or will take) prior to going into the field (e.g., anthropological field methods course, workshops on conducting participatory research, qualitative research and analysis seminars).**

(150 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

Save Save and Continue

# Awards

## Awards

Beginning with the most recent, list up to eight of the grants, fellowships, scholarships, academic honors, or awards you have received, giving in each case the dates, purposes (tuition, travel, expenses, etc.), and, if funded, the approximate amounts. If you are listing only selected awards, choose those that are most significant. Please do not be concerned if you cannot recall exact dates or amounts, and do not feel you must use all eight entries.

*Please remember:*

- use only numbers in the date fields, for example, 09/1995
- use the format mm/yyyy throughout
- where an entry continues into the present, leave the "To" field blank
- use only numbers in all dollar amount fields, for example, 1000
- please convert all monetary amounts into United States Dollars

### Award

### Award Type

### From

 / 

### To

 / 

### Amount

### Purpose

### Award

**Award Type**

Select One ▼

**From**

/

**To**

/

**Amount**

**Purpose**

**Award**

**Award Type**

Select One ▼

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**Amount**

**Purpose**

**Save**   **Save and Continue**

# Dissertation Project

## Dissertation Project

In the text boxes below, please type rather than paste your responses. If you paste your responses, be sure your character count does not exceed the limit. Excess text may appear on the screen but will not print and will not be visible to reviewers. Examine your print application to be sure your responses are complete.

Do not use hard returns.

### Dissertation Title

(250 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

### Dissertation Abstract

(800 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

### Proposed dates of fellowship tenure:

**From:**

 /  / 

(mm/dd/yyyy)

**To:**

 /  / 

(mm/dd/yyyy)

**If there is a web page associated with your project, please provide the URL here:**

(Optional)

For the purpose of this competition, the field of **Buddhist studies** is defined broadly to include many academic disciplines and specializations. Applications may relate to such fields as history, philology, philosophy, and studies of religion, and they may engage Buddhist traditions and/or contemporary developments.

For the benefit of the international panel of scholars who will review your application, please state how your project is significant for the broad range of scholarship on Buddhism and any of its specific fields.

**Significance of your project**

(2000 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

If you are planning to conduct your proposed research project in a particular location, please specify where and when you plan to do so. Please be brief and give your response in this format: semester/location. Longer explanations of research plans should be included in your proposal document.

**Proposal Location**

(150 max character limit: *character count = 0*)

 Countries or Geographical Areas – Research Focus

List any countries or geographical areas on which your research is focused.

1.

Select One



2.

Select One



3.

Select One



4.

Select One



**Other**

 Countries or Geographical Areas – Research Completed

List any countries or geographical areas other than the US in which you have done research in the last five years.

1.

Select One



2.

Select One




3.

Select One



**Other**

 Disciplinary Areas

Please identify up to five disciplinary areas, in order of relevance, that best describe your research project. Do not choose "other" unless none of the options is close to your field. **For your first selection please choose the specific field that most closely corresponds to your research project.**

1.

Select One



**Other**

2.

Select One



**Other**

3.

Select One



**Other**

4.

Select One



**Other**

5.

Select One



**Other**

Save

Save and Continue

# Administrative Information

## Administrative Information

**This information is REQUIRED (except as noted). It is for administrative purposes only and will not be distributed as part of the selection process.**

*Please remember:*

- use only numbers in the date fields, for example, 09/1995
- use the format mm/yyyy throughout
- where an entry continues into the present, leave the "To" field blank
- use only numbers in all dollar amount fields, for example, 1000 (DO NOT USE dollar signs or commas)
- please convert all monetary amounts into United States Dollars

**What is your country of citizenship?**

Select One



## ORCID iD (Optional)

### ORCID iD

ACLS encourages all applicants to provide an ORCID iD as part of their application. Learn more (<https://www.acls.org/FAQ/ACLS-Fellowships>).

## Sources of Support - Confirmed

List other sources of support, for example, sabbatical salary, other fellowships and grants, **ALREADY CONFIRMED** in connection with your proposed research project or planned total period of research leave. Also indicate the approximate amount of funding and period of support. Please convert all monetary amounts into United States Dollars.

### Source

**From**

 / 

**To**

 / 

**Amount**

**Source**

**From**

 / 

**To**

 / 

**Amount**

**Source**

**From**

 / 

**To**

 / 

**Amount**

 Sources of Support - Applying

List any other major funding sources, with approximate amounts and tenure periods, to which you **ARE APPLYING** for dissertation research or writing support. Please convert all monetary amounts into United States Dollars.

**Source**

**From**

 / 

**To**

 / 

**Amount**

**Source**

**From**

 / 

**To**

 / 

**Amount**

**Source**

**From**

 / 

**To**

 / 

**Amount**

 Statistical Purposes Only

**The following questions are optional and will be used for statistical purposes only.**

**Date of birth**

 /  / 

(mm/dd/yyyy)


**Gender**

**With which group or groups do you most identify?**

- Non-Hispanic White
- Black or African American
- Latina/o/x or Hispanic
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- East Asian American
- South Asian American
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- Middle Eastern or Arab American

Other:

- I prefer not to answer this question.

 Informational Purposes Only

**1. How did you learn about this program? (Please select all that apply.)**

- Higher Education publication (e.g., Chronicle of Higher Education, Inside Higher Ed)
- Dean or other administrator
- University fellowship/grants office
- ACLS website
- Other website (e.g. H-Net)

Please specify:

- Former fellows/grantees
- Colleague at my institution
- Colleague at another institution
- Social media

Please specify:

Online Advertisement

Please specify where:

IBIS Email Announcement

Email from ACLS

Other Email newsletter or Listserv

Please specify where:

Web Search

Academic Conference or Meeting

Please specify:

Other/informal communication

Other:

**2. Please identify the ACLS member scholarly societies or ACLS affiliate organizations (if any) of which you are a member or with which you have an affiliation. (Please check all that apply.)**

## ACLS Constituent Learned Societies

- African Studies Association
- American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- American Academy of Religion
- American Anthropological Association
- American Antiquarian Society
- American Association for Italian Studies
- American Association for the History of Medicine
- American Association of Geographers
- American Comparative Literature Association
- American Dialect Society
- American Economic Association
- American Folklore Society
- American Historical Association
- American Musicological Society
- American Numismatic Society
- American Oriental Society
- American Philosophical Association
- American Philosophical Society
- American Political Science Association

- American Society for Aesthetics
- American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
- American Society for Environmental History
- American Society for Legal History
- American Society for Theatre Research
- American Society of Church History
- American Society of Comparative Law
- American Society of International Law
- American Society of Overseas Research
- American Sociological Association
- American Studies Association
- Archaeological Institute of America
- Association for Asian American Studies
- Association for Asian Studies
- Association for Jewish Studies
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies
- Association for Study of African American Life and History
- Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies
- Association of American Law Schools
- Austrian Studies Association
- Bibliographical Society of America
- College Art Association
- Dance Studies Association
- Dictionary Society of North America
- Economic History Association
- German Studies Association
- Hispanic Society of America
- History of Science Society
- International Center of Medieval Art
- Latin American Studies Association
- Law and Society Association
- Linguistic Society of America
- Medieval Academy of America
- Metaphysical Society of America
- Middle East Studies Association
- Modern Language Association
- National Communication Association
- National Council of Teachers of English
- National Council on Public History
- National Women's Studies Association
- North American Conference on British Studies
- North American Victorian Studies Association

- Oral History Association
- Organization of American Historians
- Philosophy of Science Association
- Renaissance Society of America
- Rhetoric Society of America
- Shakespeare Association of America
- Sixteenth Century Society
- Society for American Music
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies
- Society for Classical Studies
- Society for Ethnomusicology
- Society for French Historical Studies
- Society for Military History
- Society for Music Theory
- Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)
- Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study
- Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing
- Society for the History of Technology
- Society of Architectural Historians
- Society of Biblical Literature
- World History Association

**ACLS Affiliates**

- Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA)
- Association of American Colleges and Universities
- Association of College & Research Libraries
- Association of Research Libraries
- Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences
- Center for Research Libraries
- Community College Humanities Association
- Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes
- Federation of State Humanities Councils
- International Society for Third-Sector Research
- Phi Beta Kappa

**3. Have you ever participated, beyond attending, in a scholarly meeting?**

Select ▼

If yes, in what capacity?

(Please indicate number of times: 0, 1, 2, etc.)

**Delivered a paper**

Select ▼

**Organized a panel**

Select ▼

**Participated in roundtable discussion**

Select ▼

**Participated in poster session**

Select ▼

Save    Save and Continue

# Institutional Statement

## Institutional Statement

The provided form asks the institutional representative (e.g., department chair, director of graduate studies, dean) to confirm that you have or are on schedule to have All But Dissertation (ABD) status or equivalent by April 15, 2026. **This is an online form, not a reference letter.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** You must enter your institutional representative on the Institutional Statement page BEFORE they can log in to use the online references system. Please do not ask them to access the system until you have done this. **Enter your institutional representative's professional email address.** Once you have entered the information and clicked the "send email" button, an email will be automatically generated with appropriate instructions to the institutional representative.

**The institutional statement must be submitted online.** It is your responsibility to convey information about your proposal to your institutional representative. After your institutional representative has agreed to write on your behalf:

- Tell your institutional representative to expect an email from ACLS.
- Make absolutely certain you have the correct email address for your institutional representative.
- Enter the institutional representative's name and email address by clicking on the "Add Recommender" button at the bottom of this page. Please capitalize the name properly.
- Once you have entered the information and clicked the "send email" button, an email will be automatically generated with appropriate instructions to the institutional representative.
- You can return to this screen at any time to enter an institutional representative.

**No more than one institutional statement will be accepted.**

- Enter only one institutional representative. It is possible to enter additional institutional representatives, but you should do this only if you learn that an institutional representative is unable to complete the promised statement.
- **The first institutional statement submitted will be the statement on file in support of your application.** Once one statement has been submitted, another institutional representative attempting to submit a statement for you will be prevented from doing so. Be careful not to put anyone in this situation.

If you learn that your institutional representative did not receive an email with instructions, enter the information again using the "Add Recommender" button below to have the email sent again. You will not be able to enter the information again, however, if the institutional representative has begun your statement.

**The institutional statement is due by November 25, 2025. It is your responsibility to check online to see whether a statement has been submitted.** The system will continue to accept statements after the deadline and will add them to your application at the earliest possible time, though we cannot guarantee that they will accompany your application through our entire review process if submitted after November 25, 2025.

You may wish to print this page so that you have this information after the application deadline. This page will not be included as part of your view/print application.

No recommenders entered. Click the "Add Recommender" button to request a letter.

**Add Recommender**   **Continue**

# Proposal Upload

## Proposal Upload

To complete your application package, in addition to the application form, you must upload the following items: a proposal, optional additional materials, a bibliography, and an applicant's statement. **Your proposal, optional additional materials, bibliography, and applicant's statement should be uploaded as one continuous document in this order. In order to be reviewed, documents must adhere to the specified page limits and formatting.**

### 1A) PROPOSAL

The proposal will be the basis of the evaluation of the project. Title your proposal in a brief, descriptive way and label sections of your narrative as appropriate to assist readers. The narrative should explain, briefly but specifically, what you plan to do and why, as well as describe progress already made. It should discuss the significance of this work within your specific discipline as well to the field of Buddhist Studies. Please balance the description of specific work plans against an overview of your goals and the contribution this project will make to your discipline and to the field.

Applications for **research fellowships** should identify the research question(s), the sources to be investigated, criteria by which relevant information will be selected, the location of the project in the disciplinary literature, the methodology and approach to the subject matter, and tentative conclusions.

Applications for **writing fellowships** should state the main thesis or claim, review the sources investigated and secondary literature consulted, and indicate, if possible, an outline of chapters. The proposal should also state what materials have been collected, how research questions might have been answered or modified, and the direction that analysis will take once writing has begun.

ACLS selection committees understand the problem posed by timing - often, applications for writing are composed in the midst of fieldwork or archival research, at a time when all relevant materials have not yet been collected and the dissertation's argument might be still inchoate. Applicants should address this problem directly in the proposal, describing as accurately as possible what they have managed to accomplish as of the application deadline and how they envision their dissertations taking shape during the period of the writing fellowship.

### USEFUL GUIDELINES

The proposal should address all six points. The applicant might find it useful to label sections with the six headings, but this is not required.

1. *Main Thesis*: The principal argument or problem guiding the proposed research and writing.
2. *Body*: The research problem in more detail with a justification of the research focus and approach. What is already known about the problem and what more needs to be known?

3. *Literature and sources*: The proposed topic placed in the context of existing literature and potential new sources. What will be the criteria for determining which sources are relevant? How will the project extend, modify, or challenge existing scholarship?
4. *Methods*: A detailed description of the methods to be used. How will they be deployed to address the main thesis or argument of the project?
5. *Significance*: An explanation of the importance of the proposed work to central issues in Buddhist Studies, to other disciplines, and to humanities scholarship in general.
6. *Work plan*: The concluding section of the essay should present a plan of work with a timeline for the research and/or writing during the fellowship period. How much has the applicant already accomplished on the project and how much remains to be done? What steps are anticipated during the fellowship period? What is the expected result? The work plan must specify the desired start and end dates for the fellowship period and must be able to be accomplished within 10 consecutive months.

**The proposal must not exceed five double-spaced pages in Arial or Helvetica 11-point font.**

## **1B) OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

Applicants may submit images, musical scores, or other similar supporting non-text materials.

**The additional materials must not exceed two pages.**

## **1C) BIBLIOGRAPHY**

The bibliography should provide an overview of essential references for your project, and should balance the various sorts of key materials being used.

**The bibliography must not exceed two pages, with double-spaces between entries in Arial or Helvetica 11-point.**

## **1D) APPLICANT'S STATEMENT**

The applicant's statement should describe the intellectual trajectory and experiences that brought you to the current stage of academic career and that motivate plans for the future.

*The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies, administered by ACLS, is committed to inclusion, equity, and diversity as integral components of merit that enhance the scholarly enterprise. It is a priority of this program that cohorts of fellows and grantees be broadly inclusive of different backgrounds, cultures, and any aspects that make one unique. In Buddhist Studies we seek a range of university affiliations, as well as diversity in languages, topics, Buddhist traditions, and locations of research. The program welcomes applications from all eligible individuals, and selection is made without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, citizenship, disability, age, or any other aspect of identity.*

**The applicant's statement must not exceed two double-spaced pages in Arial or Helvetica 11-point font.**

## **2) DOCUMENT SPECIFICATIONS**

- Items **1A, 1B, 1C, and 1D** must be uploaded as one continuous document.
- Margins must be at least one inch on all sides.
- Use Arial or Helvetica 11-point font.
- There is a 3 MB limit on the size of your upload.

- Your application will be converted to Portable Document Format (.pdf). Keep formatting simple to avoid problems in the converted document.
- If your proposal includes non-Roman characters, please view it after uploading to be sure these characters convert properly. If not, you may have to convert your document to .pdf and upload again to resolve formatting problems.
- Use the header/footer function to number pages. Do not type the numbers directly into each page of your document text. You may number pages consecutively throughout the entire document, or you may number the different sections separately. Page numbers are most helpful on the proposal, so you may omit them on the other items if you wish.
- **Please adhere to the word-count and page limits listed above.** Note: The .pdf conversion process can cause some slight formatting changes. If your converted document exceeds the limit only slightly (but your original document did not), please do not be concerned.
- If you have difficulty with your upload, consult the [FAQ/technical support](https://ofa.acls.org/programs/faq/?sid=uPLkXuuSFy8Zdid9Kc@4B36q0WeONX6gxEU0vmj!idfaQbpQImu1Jpj@o6PvE5AWVIcejLz6qWu4uk8kHyZWm) (https://ofa.acls.org/programs/faq/?sid=uPLkXuuSFy8Zdid9Kc@4B36q0WeONX6gxEU0vmj!idfaQbpQImu1Jpj@o6PvE5AWVIcejLz6qWu4uk8kHyZWm) contacting OFA HELP.

**Documents must adhere to the page limits and formatting requirements to be reviewed.**

### 3) INSTRUCTIONS FOR UPLOADING YOUR DOCUMENTS

Your items should be collated in this order—proposal, optional additional materials, bibliography, and applicant's statement—and submitted as one file.

Files will be accepted in the following formats **ONLY**:

Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx), Text only (.txt), or Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf). **Your file MUST include the appropriate extension (e.g., ".doc");** if you are on a Mac, you will need to enter the extension as part of the file name.

The button below will allow you to upload your document. You will be able to browse your computer system to select the file to be uploaded. When you have completed the upload, your file name should appear under "FILE UPLOAD STATUS" below as a blue link. You can confirm that the file has uploaded successfully by clicking on the blue link and viewing your file. Sometimes the process takes a little time: if your file name does not appear as a blue link, refresh the screen using the refresh button in your browser tool bar, or simply leave this screen and come back to it.

As long as your application is still "In Process," you can upload revised versions of your document by simply repeating the upload process and selecting the new/revised version. (This may have the same file name or a new file name.) When you click on "Upload Document" the revised version will be recorded and the old version erased.

#### **Proposal, Optional Additional Materials, Bibliography, and Applicant's Statement:**

Select  
NOT UPLOADED

[Upload File](#) [Continue](#)

# Submit

## Submit Application

Before submitting your application, make sure you have

- answered all appropriate questions
- completed and **saved** all screens
- uploaded successfully your proposal and accompanying documents

We suggest that you view and/or print your application (/programs/buddhistdis/print/?sid=QvuHM@pCzB!GXd7Dq4QyQNwEy6D50fwL17UY8z!pd13UwUhz@icjXjIPnd702fJmJhs6NPcXHjt9qgMnjmWTvfpIGQone last time before submitting it since **no revisions are allowed after submission**. Your view/print (/programs/buddhistdis/print/?sid=5!iD3eDoUmRInl8!wYmj53@Ggczmrul1GCs57WfWQabIDg2!JZNPwiKLG0lqwid!bzFYUFtZEtMA0J87NawAQYKe@4wS should include your uploaded document. If it does not, click the OFA HELP button above for assistance.

**An application that is submitted, but is not complete, will not be considered.**

**An application that is complete, but is not submitted, will not be considered.**

I have completed the application, and would like to **SUBMIT** it for ACLS consideration.

**SUBMIT APPLICATION**

# Submit

## Submit Application

Thank you for submitting your application on July 24, 2025 at 12:19 PM EDT.

You may print this page for your records if you would like. You may print out your application at any time until January 15, 2026. If you have any questions please contact us at [BuddhistStudies@acl.org](mailto:BuddhistStudies@acl.org) (mailto:BuddhistStudies@acl.org).