

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

GRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCES ABROAD TRAVEL GRANT (GREAT GRANT)

OVERVIEW

UNT's Graduate Research Experiences Abroad Travel Grant (GREAT Grant) provides UNT graduate students with funding to undertake independent research abroad in support of the student's thesis/dissertation research. The GREAT Grant aims to advance the research activities of UNT graduate students and enhance their global perspectives by providing research experiences outside of the U.S. The GREAT Grant is administered by International Affairs.

The GREAT Grant provides two award types:

- Short-term: minimum of 14 days abroad, up to \$3,500
- Long-term: minimum of 25 days abroad, up to \$4,500

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must:

- Be UNT graduate students in good standing
- Be enrolled full-time at UNT at the time of application
- Return to UNT and be enrolled full-time at UNT in the fall semester immediately after their GREAT Grant project concludes
- Demonstrate how the project is necessary for and supports their thesis/dissertation research
- Conduct independent research abroad
- Not be participating in a UNT Study Abroad program, any type of UNT group organized activity, conferences, exhibitions, performances, or similar activities

APPLICATION AND DEADLINE

Applications must be submitted by **5 pm on February 12, 2025** at [GREAT Grant Application](#) and include the following application components described below. Additional information is available at [GREAT Grant Application Preview](#).

1. Online Application

- [GREAT Grant Application](#)

2. Project Statement (upload document)

- A statement of up to 1,000 words that describes the project must be uploaded as part of the online application. The project description must address the following:
 - Describe the project activities abroad, specific goals, and anticipated outcomes
 - Describe how the project is necessary for and supports your thesis/dissertation research
 - Provide a detailed and well-developed plan and timeline for the project and the activities you will undertake abroad
 - Describe any relevant experiences that have prepared you to undertake this project

3. Letter of Approval (upload document)

- A one-page signed letter on letterhead by the applicant's thesis/dissertation committee chair (UNT faculty member) must be uploaded as part of the application. The letter of approval must include:
 - Statement approving the proposed research
 - Statement about how the committee chair will provide academic oversight throughout the duration of the research project
 - Description of the applicant's academic merits and feasibility of the proposed project
 - Explanation of how the project is necessary for the applicant's thesis/dissertation research

4. Budget Information

- Budget information must include the following:
 - o Itemized budget
 - o Budget narrative describing how you calculated your budget
 - o Supporting budget documents providing evidence of estimated budget items, such as estimated airfare, estimated accommodations, etc. (upload documents)

- The GREAT Grant award may be used for the following:
 - o Roundtrip Airfare
 - o Accommodations
 - o Meals
 - o In-country transportation (in-country airfare, taxis, buses, trains, etc.)
 - o UNT international travel insurance
 - o Other expenses, as approved by the Vice Provost of International Affairs

- The GREAT Grant cannot be used for the following expenses:
 - o Tuition and/or fees
 - o Equipment, supplies, and/or materials
 - o Salaries and/or wages for the recipient and/or project collaborators

5. Affiliation Email (if applicable) (upload document)

- If your project requires that you have access to facilities (e.g. labs, libraries, archives, etc.) at a university/institution in your project country, then you must upload an email from the appropriate person at your affiliation. The affiliation email should include the following:
 - o Approval from the affiliation for you to collaborate with them on your project
 - o Dates when you will collaborate with them
 - o Confirmation that you will have access to the facilities during the time when you will be abroad
- If your project requires that you have access to facilities at a university/institution in your project country that are **open access to the public**, then you must upload confirmation of open access to the public from a webpage/appropriate source of information.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be reviewed by a UNT committee of faculty and/or staff using the following criteria:

- Demonstrated connection between the project and the student's thesis/dissertation research
- Contribution of the project to the overall educational career of the student
- Contribution of the project to the scholarly field
- Academic quality and feasibility of the project
- Demonstrated commitment to the project by the student and committee chair
- Demonstrated ability by the student to initiate and sustain research
- Incorporation of a significant amount of time abroad
- Preference may be given to doctoral students

AWARD INFORMATION

Limited funding is available in 2024-2025. The number of awards and award amounts are at the discretion of the Vice Provost of International Affairs. The maximum amount per award is:

- Up to \$3,500 for short-term awards (minimum of 14 days abroad)
- Up to \$4,500 for long-term awards (minimum of 25 days abroad)

Applicants will be notified via email if their proposal is selected for funding. Applicants selected for funding will receive an award notification letter with information and conditions about their award and distribution of funds. Applicants must accept the award by returning a signed acceptance form to Dr. Amanda Bennett at Amanda.White@unt.edu by the deadline stated in the award notification letter.

Awards, including the distribution of award funding, are contingent on applicants securing university approvals, including, but not limited to the following:

- Approval to travel to the country where the research will be conducted
- IRB approval if the research involves the use of human subjects
- IACUC approval if the research involves the use of live, vertebrate animals
- Export Control approval if the research will occur in an export control restricted country

International Affairs reserves the right to revoke funding at any time should the parameters of the project change, should the student no longer be able to undertake the project, should the student's committee chair no longer support the project/student's involvement in the project, should the location where the research will be conducted be deemed unsafe, and/or other reasons.

PROJECT PERIOD

The 2024-25 GREAT Grant supports projects that will occur between May 2025-August 8, 2025. All GREAT Grant expenses must be reconciled by August 8, 2025. Awards cannot be retroactively applied to projects/travel that previously occurred. The award will not carryforward into the next fiscal year. In the event the project cannot be started/completed during the project period due to any circumstances, the project will not be extended, and the funds will not carryforward into the next fiscal year.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

GREAT Grant recipients are required to enroll in UNT's international travel insurance and register their international travel at: https://riskmanagement.unt.edu/emergency/international_travel.html. GREAT Grant recipients must abide by regulations pertaining to research integrity and compliance as described at: <https://research.unt.edu/research-services/research-integrity-and-compliance/index.html>.

GREAT Grant recipients are required to submit a short report to Amanda.White@unt.edu by August 8, 2025. The report should be two (2) pages and include the project activities that occurred, the results of the project, and future projects/research planned as a result of the project. GREAT Grant recipients are required to present their research at an event organized by International Affairs during the fall/spring semester after their GREAT Grant project concludes.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Application Opens: November 8, 2024
Application Deadline: February 12, 2025
Award Decisions: March 2025
Project Period: May to August 8, 2025
Project Report Due: August 8, 2025

CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Amanda White Bennett, Director of Global Partnerships and Engagement
Email: Amanda.White@unt.edu | Phone: (940) 369-5292

Website: <https://international.unt.edu/funding-awards/student-funding-opportunities.html>