Getting To Know Your LASA: Travel Grants

LASA offers travel grants to attend the annual Congresses to its members based on available funds and a selection procedure. Only members whose papers were accepted are eligible to receive a travel grant.

For the 2020 Congress, LASA has implemented a new benefit of travel grants. As in previous years, members will receive $500; in addition, we will cover the cost of the registration to participate in the Congress. Therefore, travel grantees will receive a stipend and will be automatically registered at no cost.

Types of Grants

LASA has five different funds to support travel grants. The total amount of funds depends on LASA allocated funds and the donations from our membership.

1. Congress Travel Fund: provides travel support for scholars from Latin America and the Caribbean.
2. Student Fund: provides support for students enrolled in academic institutions outside Latin America and the Caribbean.
3. Indigenous and Afro-Descendant Fund: provides support for these specific groups.
5. Fund for professors outside of Latin America and US.

Requirements to Apply for a Grant

Acceptance of your paper or panel does not guarantee funding, it only makes you eligible. In order to apply for a grant from one of these five funds you need to meet these criteria:

1. You did not receive a travel grant in the last three Congresses.
2. Your authored paper was accepted for the Congress. Discussants, chairs, and participants of workshops and roundtables are not eligible.
3. Fill out every item on the submission form, including a current CV. Non-tenured professors in the US need to include an additional letter from their institution confirming their full-time work and non-tenured track.
4. Apply for a travel grant type for which you are eligible.

Application, Selection and Allocation

Individual grant applications have the same deadline as paper submissions and each participant must apply for a grant individually. The percentage of sessions accepted for the Congress is used to calculate the percentage of travel grants awarded.

The selection of travel grants is guided by the ranking list that the Grant Committee/Track Chairs and Program Chairs provide. If you were selected to receive a travel grant, you must comply with these conditions:
• You will need to accept and digitally sign with DocuSign by the deadline indicated.
• You must upload your paper in our system by the deadline set.
• You must attend the Congress and check in at the Travel Grantee office to claim your grant.

Grants by Numbers

At LASA, we try to fund as many members as possible. As you can see in the table below, an average of 26% of the members that requested a travel grant in the last four years were supported. For 2020, fewer members received travel grants because travel grants now include both the stipend and the registration cost.

We hope that in the future we receive more economic support from our members to fund additional grants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants requested</td>
<td>1,403</td>
<td>979</td>
<td>1,548</td>
<td>1,410</td>
<td>1,398</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants granted</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>290</td>
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<td>Funds available</td>
<td>$267,735</td>
<td>$295,406</td>
<td>$214,811</td>
<td>$205,517</td>
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LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION
416 Bellefield Hall
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
lasa@lasaweb.org
Tel: 412-648-7929
Fax: 412-624-7145