The Bonsal Applied Education Research Award

Purpose and Vision

The Bonsal Applied Education Research Award is designed to advance the development and completion of dissertations by doctoral students with applied interests in education research. This financial support is intended to enhance the quality of two (2) doctoral students’ dissertation projects focusing on research into educational solutions having the potential to result in large-scale implementation in school or other educational settings.

Scholars’ Responsibilities

Applicants must be full-time PhD students in a Peabody College department who plan on conducting a dissertation study during the 2014-2015 academic year. These students will be expected to:

1. Write a research proposal focusing on an educational innovation that will impact academic and/or social performance and has the potential to be brought to scale for widespread adoption by schools or other educational settings.
2. Conduct and defend a dissertation study based on the research proposal.
3. Write a report based on the dissertation study that outlines a series of follow-up studies needed to advance the educational solution initiated by the dissertation research.

Financial Award and Support

Each awardee will be provided $8,000 to be used to advance the development and completion of an approved research project. The funds are to supplement existing student funding and can be used for travel, data collection, participant incentive fees, and/or research materials. These awards are from a contribution of the Bonsal family to Peabody College.

Applications and Award Program Management

Applications should include:

- Research proposal (3 pages or less, single spaced) with a clear statement of the likely product(s) that are to be developed and their intended educational application(s).
- Budget for the use of the award funds.
- Curriculum vita.
- Letter of support from the applicant's doctoral advisor.

Applications should be sent via email to Craig Anne Heflinger, Associate Dean at c.heflinger@vanderbilt.edu.

Applications are due by 5:00 pm on 30 April 2014 and award winners will be announced by the end of May. Funds for research will be immediately available starting 1 June 2014.