Faculty Summer Research Awards in the 
Humanities and the Social Sciences

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES 
AND 
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA AWARDS

Application Deadline:  
Noon September 12, 2008 (NEH applications)  
Noon October 3, 2008 (UVa applications)

The President of the University and the Dean of Arts and Sciences annually allocates 
funds for faculty awards to support full-time summer research in the social sciences and the 
humanities (including original creative works in the fine arts). In addition, we are allowed two 
(2) nominees for the summer stipend program sponsored by the National Endowment for the 
Humanities. Approximately 45 UVa awards will be given each year including support for full, 
non-chaired professors.

Since the aims and terms of the NEH program are similar to those of the University 
program, applications for one or both programs can be made on the attached form. The 
nominees chosen by the Committee on Summer Grants for NEH stipends will be required to 
submit their proposals electronically through the NEH website. All applicants may remain in 
contention for University grants, whether or not they are nominated for NEH stipends, except as 
indicated in the attached. Notification typically can be expected by early December.

The original and 6 copies of the attached application must be submitted to Mollie Iseli in 
the Office of the Vice President for Research, 3rd Floor, One Morton Drive, Box 400301. 
Please review the Summer Grants Guidelines specific to the current granting year. Once the 
deadlines draw near, please don’t rely on messenger mail: it is safer to deliver your proposal in 
person.
ELIGIBILITY FOR UVa GRANTS

Full-time, tenure-track or tenured faculty holding appointments in the arts, humanities and social sciences at the rank of assistant, associate, or full (non-chair) professor and expecting to continue at the University through the academic session following the summer in which the grants are awarded, are invited to submit applications for grants (in the amount of $5,000) in support of specific projects. It is understood that anyone awarded a grant whose employment by the University is subsequently terminated prior to the completion of the academic session immediately following the summer in which the grants are awarded will not be eligible.

Acting assistant professors who expect to complete all requirements for their doctoral degrees by February 1, may submit applications. Those acting assistant professors to whom awards are made must provide certification of the completion of their degree requirements to the appropriate dean by February 1. If certification sufficient to initiate an official change of status by the appropriate dean to assistant professor is not received by that date, the award will be terminated. Full, non-chaired professors may apply.

Funding for summer research is extremely limited, and competition for grants is severe. In evaluating proposals, the Committee focuses primarily on the quality of the project, the significance of the contribution that the proposed project will make to thought and knowledge in the applicant's field and to the humanities or social sciences. The committee will also consider the likelihood that the applicant will complete the project during the summer.

Grant awards are subject to the following criteria:

1. No grants will be made for research that is intended to result in the production of a textbook, for writing that is essentially commercial, or for the preparation of teaching materials that will be required by the applicant in the performance of his or her own normal teaching duties.

2. No grants will be made for the support of research leading to a graduate degree.

3. Stipend recipients are expected to devote at least two full-time summer months to their research.

4. Faculty who receive summer salary for whatever reason are ineligible. Grantees are not precluded, however, from accepting small grants for project expenses not otherwise covered. Any additional grantee commitments for the summer should be described along with a proposed distribution of summer effort.

5. Persons receiving awards will be expected to report in writing to Chair, Summer Grants Committee by September 30 on the progress achieved toward the completion of their projects. Failure to submit a final report on time will jeopardize future funding.
ELIGIBILITY FOR NEH GRANTS

1. Each summer stipend provides $5,000 for two consecutive and uninterrupted months of full-time study or research. Stipend recipients may not hold major fellowships or grants during the tenure of their awards, and they must devote full time to their projects for the two months of their tenure.

2. Acting assistant professors are ineligible unless a Ph.D. is not normally required in their field. Full non-chaired professors may submit applications.

3. Applicants on temporary leave from their home institutions (for example, those with sabbaticals, visiting professorships, fellowships at other institutions, etc.) must be nominated by their home institutions.

4. Non-faculty college and university staff members are eligible for the summer stipend program. Such persons may apply without nomination provided that they will not be teaching during the following academic year.

5. Applicants with terminating appointments and those not employed by colleges and universities are exempt from nomination and may apply directly to the Endowment.

6. Persons who have received a major fellowship or research grant two academic years prior to the current application period or in subsequent academic years are not eligible to apply. For the purposes of this guideline, a "major fellowship or research grant" is a postdoctoral award that provides a continuous period of released time covering at least one term of the academic year (for example, a quarter or a semester); that enables the recipient to pursue scholarly research, personal study, professional development, or writing; that provides a stipend of at least $10,000; and that comes from sources other than the recipient's employing institution. In this regard, sabbaticals and grants from a person's own institution are not considered major fellowships, nor are stipends and grants from other sources supporting study and research during the summer.

7. Previous recipients of Endowment Summer Stipends must wait five years before they are eligible to apply again to the program. An example is persons who have held NEH Summer Stipends in 2004 or later would not be eligible to apply for 2009 awards.

8. Persons may not hold more than one award from programs in the Division of Fellowships and Seminars in a given year.