



***Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Dissertation Fellowship
Fellow's Agreement on Use of Fellowship Funds***

Instructions to Student: Please read carefully and sign on last page. Your signature confirms your agreement to submit the required reports described below. Please keep a copy of this agreement for your records and make a note of the dates by which the required reports are due and where they are to be sent.

Eligibility Criteria

To be awarded a Bilinski Fellowship, and to remain a Bilinski Fellow, and to be eligible to receive fellowship funds, each student recipient must meet and agree to ALL of the following criteria:

1. Be a full-time doctoral student at the University of South Carolina in one of the relevant graduate programs who has advanced to candidacy, passed all comprehensive exams, and successfully defended a dissertation proposal;
2. Maintain good academic standing at all times;
3. Have demonstrated exceptional ability and potential in his or her field of study;
4. Be a student who needs financial support to complete his or her degree;
5. Commit to devoting full-time effort toward dissertation completion for each semester (including summer period) in which Fellowship funds are provided;
6. Not be employed either outside or within the University of South Carolina;
7. Understands and agrees that the only fellowship he or she will hold during the July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 Fiscal Year will be the Bilinski Fellowship itself.
8. Abide by the University of South Carolina Academic Code of Conduct.

Note: Fellowship Funds will **not** be awarded to a candidate whose dissertation has already been substantially completed.

Additional Eligibility Criteria

To be awarded a Fellowship and to remain a Bilinski Fellow, a recipient must – in addition to the eligibility criteria set forth above – be a United States citizen or a Permanent Resident eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship

¹ A Permanent Resident is an alien (immigrant) person who has been granted such status through an immigration process (now handled under Homeland Security), and has been issued a *United States Permanent Residency Card*. This card (informally called Green Card) must be carried at all times. Permanent residents may live and work in the United States, permanently, and males 18-25 must register for selective service system. They cannot vote, hold state or federal public elected offices, or hold federal government jobs. They may apply for citizenship after 5 years of residency (or 3 years if married to a US citizen) and be granted citizenship upon meeting all requirements.

Bilinski Fellow's Agreement to Use of Fellowship Funds

Each Bilinski Fellow must sign a written acknowledgement of, and agreement to, certain terms and conditions of the initial award and ongoing entitlement to fellowship funds, including the following:

1. Acknowledgement by the Bilinski Fellow that he or she understands that continued receipt of fellowship funds is dependent upon continuing to meet all fellowship criteria listed above.
2. The Bilinski Fellow agrees to inform promptly The University Educational Foundation (via the College of Arts and Sciences) of any change in the Bilinski Fellow's circumstances such that he or she no longer meets one or more of the criteria above.
3. The Bilinski Fellow understands and agrees that fellowship funds are to be used for the payment, partially or totally, of tuition, fees, books, field research, materials, other educational expenses, and for necessary living expenses. At least annually, he or she shall confirm in writing that the fellowship funds received during the prior academic year were used for the specified purposes.
4. The Bilinski Fellow understands and agrees that he or she must devote full-time effort toward dissertation completion during each term that he or she receives Bilinski Fellowship funds.
5. The Bilinski Fellow understands and agrees that he or she will not engage in any employment within or outside of the University.
6. The Bilinski Fellow understands and agrees that he or she must make demonstrable progress toward the doctoral degree and dissertation completion for each term for which fellowship funds are granted.
7. The Bilinski Fellow understands and agrees that the only fellowship he or she will hold during the July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 Fiscal Year will be the Bilinski Fellowship itself.

I hereby certify that I meet all eligibility criteria for the Bilinski Fellowship, and I agree to the terms and conditions of the Bilinski Fellowship.

I agree to submit two brief interim reports on my use of Bilinski Fellowship funds by December 10, 2021 and May 13, 2022, and a final report by July 30, 2022. Each report will contain a brief summary of the purposes for which funds have been expended (tuition, fees, books, field research, materials, other educational expenses, necessary living expenses) and a brief description of progress toward dissertation completion.

Each report should be submitted by the due date via the [online submission form](#) on the CAS website.

(Applicant's signature)

(Date)

(Name: Please Print)