

The CDEP Student Research Grant Program

Application Form – 2026

The Center for Development Economics and Policy is pleased to announce a call for proposals for graduate students in development at Columbia University conducting pre-dissertation and dissertation research. This year the funding is made possible by support from the School of International and Public Affairs. The number of awards varies year to year and may depend on the strength of the applications received. Research amounts typically are under \$5,000.

Deadline for submission of proposal materials: **May 29th, 2026 (11:59pm EDT)**

All applications for awards *must* include:

1. A completed Application Form.
2. A clear and concise research description. The research description should include detail on the proposed study aims, rationale, methods, and planned data analysis. Maximum length of 2 pages.
3. Budget. Maximum length of 1 page.
4. Letter of support from a faculty mentor/advisor. This can be quite brief (1 paragraph).

**Note: Items 1-3 above should be submitted AS A SINGLE PDF DOCUMENT, submitted as an email attachment to cdep@columbia.edu*

Item 4 (letter of support) can be submitted with other application materials, or faculty mentors/advisors may email their letter directly to cdep@columbia.edu, indicating the student's first and last name and title of project.

Eligibility: Masters or doctoral students at Columbia University enrolled in degree programs whose course of study has a substantial focus on development are eligible to apply.

Restrictions: Awards can be used for travel expenses, the purchase of data, expenses to collect data, and similar expenses at the discretion of the award committee.

Application Review: A committee of CDEP-affiliated faculty will choose the award winners. In making the award decisions, the committee will decide what budget items can be funded and by what amount.

Announcement of awards will be made by June 5th, 2026.

Winners of the award will submit a report to CDEP by September 8th, 2026. The 2-page report will consist of a summary of research results and progress that was facilitated by the award. The report must also include a detailed account of how the allocated funds were used.

For more information, please visit: <https://cdep.sipa.columbia.edu/cdep-student-research-grant-program>

Questions may be directed to Kiki Pop-Eleches (cp2124@columbia.edu)

Last name	
First name	
Email address	
MA/PhD program	
Department at Columbia	
Name of faculty advisor/mentor	
TITLE of proposed project	
Budget (\$)	

Research Description

Instructions: Please provide a clear and concise research description. The research description should include detail on the proposed study aims, rationale, methods, timeline, and planned data analysis. *Maximum length of 2 pages.*

Budget

Instructions: Please provide a detailed proposed budget and a line-by-line justification of all proposed expenditures (i.e. please detail how you arrived at the amount for each line item). *Maximum length of 1 page.*