

Irsay Fellows Q&A

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Thanks for your
interest!

<https://irsay.iu.edu/training/irsay-graduate-fellowship>





1. What is the Irsay Fellows program?

2. Are all Fellows funded?
3. Why would I want to be a Fellow even without funding?
4. Who is eligible to apply for the funded fellowship?
5. What does the funded fellowship award include?
6. How many funded and unfunded Fellows are there each year?
7. What are the expectations for Fellows?
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The Irsay Graduate Fellowship is a program designed to advance interdisciplinary research in sociomedical sciences at Indiana University Bloomington.

It is meant to encourage training and professional development of advanced graduate students, build community at the Irsay Institute, and to support active research.

The program runs in Fall and Spring semesters, even though funded fellowships are only available for one semester.



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No, only some accepted Fellows are funded through our program for one semester of their academic year. Fellowship recipients will need other funding for their other semester.

Non-funded Fellows may be supported through research grants, faculty support, or through RA, TA, or AI appointments.

We are limited in the amount of office space we have to offer graduate students and the amount of funded fellowships we can offer in a year, but we do our best to accept as many students as we can support.



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The program offers a few things to all Fellows:

1. Access to office space in Morrison Hall, along with other graduate students, post-docs, research scientists, staff, and faculty of the Irsay.
2. A biweekly professional development meeting with opportunities for conversation and discussions with Irsay leadership faculty.
3. Opportunities to present work in progress and other presentations in both informal and formal settings (including a new spring research symposium).



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Applicants must:

- Be eligible for G901 enrollment during the fellowship semester.
- Be enrolled as full-time students for the award year.
- Be making satisfactory progress toward completing a terminal graduate degree.
- Have a clear interest or engagement in sociomedical research.
- Collaborate with a **faculty mentor** to develop a research project plan that benefits both the mentor and student (does not have to be an Irsay-associated faculty member, but this helps)



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- The fellowship provides a stipend of \$13,000 per semester.
- It does not include a fee remission.
- Recipients must enroll in G901 during the awarded semester.
- The award must be used in the year it is granted and cannot be deferred.
- Funding cannot be “stacked” with other appointments or fellowships.
- You can chose Fall or Spring semester of your academic year.
- It would be wise to let your department know you are seeking other funding before teaching assignments begin to be made.



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It depends.

Our number of funded fellowships can vary from year to year, but we anticipate being able to fund six semester-long fellowships in 2025-26.

We are also constrained by office availability, but we anticipate we can have space for all six funded Fellows with potentially space for 2-4 additional fellows.



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Fellows are expected to:

- Work with a faculty mentor on externally funded research or preparatory work for such funding.
- Utilize the assigned shared office in the Irsay offices in Morrison Hall.
- Participate in Irsay events and community activities during the year.
- Attend and participate in biweekly professional and research seminar meetings with other fellows, post-docs, and international visitors.
- Present in the Irsay Research Symposium in the Spring



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Applicants must submit:

1. A completed nomination form.
2. **A 2-3 page research plan developed in consultation with a faculty mentor, outlining the research problem and action plan during and beyond the fellowship.**
3. The applicant's curriculum vitae (CV).
4. An attestation from the faculty mentor, confirming their agreement with the research plan and describing how the proposed work fits into their research agenda.



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The deadline is firm:
January 16, 2025.



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As quickly as possible!

Realistically, no sooner than early February.

We will be in touch, and we encourage you to let your department know you may have funding - as February is when Fall teaching schedules are often being built by departments.



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Spend time on your research plan and make sure that it highlights:

1. How your work relates to social science AND medical or health-related research.
2. How this research is being done in partnership with a faculty member.
3. How this research is part of a planned research agenda of publications or funding proposals
4. The fellowship is not intended to simply support dissertation research, so if it is part of your dissertation, please make sure to emphasize the points above.



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Our committee for decisions is comprised of our three Directors: Bernice Pescosolido, Brea Perry, and Kosali Simon.

They consider space and funding constraints and try to pick the Fellows that best meet the criteria:

1. Graduate students at an advanced level of training.
2. Projects that show clear goals and appear promising for publication and funding.
3. Students working in faculty team.
4. Faculty mentors associated with the Irsay are a top priority, but not required.

Questions?



Current Fellows

Maryliss Fantoni

PhD Candidate, O'Neill
School of Public &
Environmental Affairs



Emily Ekl

PhD Candidate, Sociology



Jessica Short

PhD Candidate, Sociology

