



2021 Application Guidelines

Sponsored by the Community for Responsible Research in Business and Management (RRBM)
Co-Sponsor: The International Association for Chinese Management Research

Application Deadline: December 1, 2021

Award Decision: March 1, 2022

RRBM and its co-sponsors are offering up to eight scholarships of \$10,000 each to doctoral students in business schools to conduct dissertation research that follows the principles of responsible research (www.rrbm.network). The research topic should focus on **economic inequality, racial, gender or other forms of social justice in organizations**, thereby contributing to meeting one or more of the United Nations' [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Purpose

To support young scholars taking on the grand challenges of our world through responsible research in business and management.

Possible Research Topics and Methods

The Selection Committee welcomes dissertation research that will generate knowledge or ideas to reduce income inequality, increase racial and gender equity, or address other forms of social justice that enhance stakeholder well-being, especially focusing on the role of business organizations. Research that contributes to meeting one or more of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals related to these social justice issues are of special interest to this dissertation scholarship program.

This scholarship program supports dissertation research that is inter-disciplinary and that involves stakeholders in the research process. We encourage the use of multiple methods, including qualitative (case studies, observations, text analysis), quantitative (surveys, archival

empirical), experimentation (lab and field), as explained in the [principles of responsible research](#). Intervention field studies (e.g., randomized controlled experiments) that robustly test theory-informed ideas/treatments to address the aforementioned justice issues are especially valuable.

The Eligible Applicant

- a. Is a doctoral candidate (generally after the qualifying exam) at the beginning stage of the dissertation research;
- b. Is studying in a business school in any of the disciplines as long as the research falls within the domain of the research topics described above;
- c. Is familiar with the RRBM Principles of Responsible Research (e.g., as an endorser of the position paper, an attendee of RRBM webinars, or through other engagements);
- d. [Recommended] Has attended the Philosophical Foundation of Responsible Research course (which will be offered online September to mid-November 2021). The course covers the topics of uncertainties in scientific reasoning, inductive risks, values in science, objectivity and responsibility, science and policy, science and society, and progress in science – foundational ideas of responsible research. The final assignment of this course is to develop a research idea related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Click [here](#) for the syllabus of this course and to register to attend.

The Application & Proposal Content

Eligible Applications will be submitted online at [Dare to Care Scholarship – RRBM network](#) and include the following documents: (I) a proposal; (II) two letters of recommendation; and (III) the applicant's CV.

- I. **The proposal** should be no more than 10 double-spaced pages (12-point font size, approximately 3000 words) exclusive of references, tables, figures, and appendices. The proposal should include the following elements:
 - a. **Research question** – explain briefly the major question being pursued and how it relates to any of the topics described above in “Possible Research Topics and Methods”.
 - b. **Literature** – explain briefly (no more than 15 references) what the literature informs about your question and why a new study is desirable or necessary.
 - c. **Method** – explain how the research design follows the principles of responsible research to enhance both the credibility and usefulness of the research findings. (See the RRBM position paper on [www.rrbm.network](#) for a description of the seven principles of responsible research.)

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- d. **Potential impact** – beyond academic publications, explain how the research will be shared, delivered, or promoted to influence better business and management practices and a better society. You may consider ideas such as writing a teaching case, an article for a professional journal, giving talks to communities of practice.
 - e. **Research period** – the proposed research should be completed within 12 to 24 months from the date of the notification of the scholarship award.
 - f. **Research budget** – briefly describe in no more than two to three sentences the greatest areas of need in terms of financial support.
- II. Two letters of recommendation** should accompany the proposal. One letter must be from the candidate's thesis advisor, and a second letter can be from the business school dean (or equivalent), the PhD program director or thesis committee members. Recommendation letters should:
- a. Comment on the strength of the proposal and the qualification of the candidate, and
 - b. Verify the completion time of the research project.
- III. A current curriculum vitae (CV)**, reflecting the applicant's educational and/or professional career, including publications or working papers.

Evaluation of Proposals

- a. Proposals will be evaluated using the [Seven Principles of Responsible Research](#), ensuring that the proposed research meets the standards of high relevance to the research domain specified in this program and strong methodological rigor with promise of credible findings.
- b. The Organizing Committee will be responsible for the initial screening of the submissions and identify the most promising candidates. Organizing Committee members will represent the community of Dare to Care Scholars, junior faculty winners of the Responsible Research Award (Management, Marketing or Operations Management), and past winners of this scholarship.
- c. The Selection Committee will evaluate the short-listed proposals. Selection Committee members will comprise senior scholar winners of the responsible research award, and accomplished professors who support the principles of responsible research. Finalists may be invited to present their ideas to the selection panel via the Zoom online meeting platform.

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- d. As appropriate, the Selection Committee may consider including professionals in practice communities to join the expert panel of judges in evaluating the short-listed proposals.
- e. Award winners will be announced March 1, 2022.

The Dare to Care Scholarship Award

Scholarship winners will receive a \$10,000 USD award. In addition, the following additional support may be available:

- Community support: Regular gathering (e.g., quarterly via Zoom) of scholarship recipients, mentors and invited guests to exchange ideas, share progress, discuss solutions to challenges, and other resource or learning opportunities.
- Mentoring: If possible, candidates may be matched to review panel members who can mentor scholarship recipients and provide introductions to research sites, as needed.
- Journal support: The following journals welcome manuscripts from the scholarship recipients, subject to the normal review process: *Academy of Management Journal*, *Administrative Science Quarterly*, *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *Organization Science*, *Management Information Systems Quarterly* and *Academic of Management Discoveries*. These journals have published most of the winning articles of the Responsible Research Award. The [Awards page](#) on the RRBM website lists these award-winning articles.
- Completion celebration: A symposium (online or in person) to celebrate and share the results of the completed projects each year will be considered.

Key Dates

March 2021	Call for Applications
Sept to mid-Nov 2021	Philosophical Foundation of Responsible Research course (virtual)
November 1, 2021	Application open
December 1, 2021	Application deadline
March 1, 2022	Winner announcement
September 1, 2021	6-month progress report by the scholarship recipients
March 1, 2023	12-month progress or completion report*

** Progress reports will be expected at six-month intervals until the completion of the project (i.e., a 24-month project will include three progress reports and one completion report).*

Inquiries regarding the Dare to Care Dissertation Scholarship may be directed to scholarship@rrbm.network.