



NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EURASIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN RESEARCH

2025 TITLE VIII SHORT TERM RESEARCH GRANTS FOR RESEARCH IN RUSSIA, CENTRAL ASIA, THE CAUCASUS, AND THE BALKANS

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

ABOUT THE SHORT TERM RESEARCH GRANTS FOR RESEARCH IN RUSSIA, CENTRAL ASIA, THE CAUCASUS, AND THE BALKANS

The Short-Term Research Grant Program provides fellowships to U.S. citizens holding the PhD for independent or collaborative research in Russia, Central Asia, the Caucasus, and the Balkans that do not require administrative assistance or logistical support (such as assistance with placements or access to archives, housing, visas, travel, etc). Applicants must have completed any previous NCEEER grants received **before** they may apply for a new grant.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EURASIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN RESEARCH

National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEEER) was created in 1978 to develop and sustain long-term, high-quality programs of post-doctoral research in the social, political, economic, environmental, and historical development of Eurasia and Eastern Europe. NCEEER has established a substantial record of support for research in these areas, research that directly benefits U.S. policymakers, the academic and non-profit communities, and American business. It also has helped bring to the attention of Congress and the executive branch the national interest served by the exchange of ideas among professionals in academia and government. Priority is given to applications that forward these goals.

COUNTRIES ELIGIBLE FOR RESEARCH

- Albania
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Croatia
- Georgia
- Kazakhstan
- Kosovo
- Kyrgyzstan
- North Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Russia
- Serbia
- Slovenia
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan

PROVISIONS FOR FUNDING

- Grants may not exceed **\$2,500**.
- The grants may cover the following: travel from the United States to the host country; *per diem* to cover in-country costs for meals, lodging, and local transportation; miscellaneous research expenses directly related to the project and deemed to be appropriate by the selection committee and NCEEER.
- Travel may be conducted between March 1, 2025 through August 1, 2026, with all travel and research under the grant to be concluded by September 1, 2026.
- Scholars should submit to NCEEER a final progress report. Should they wish to produce publications from their grant, they may also submit a short working paper based on the results of their research. Please note that research reports submitted to NCEEER for scholars' projects may be considered for publication in the journal *Problems of Post-Communism*.
- Because the scholar or researcher is receiving project funds directly from NCEEER, he or she must maintain records of financial expenditures related to the Grant. He or she must retain supporting documents such as receipts.
- NCEEER Grants do not provide funds for the purchase of equipment, either general or special purpose, as defined in the Federal Acquisition Regulations; for tuition or "cost of education" charges in connection with graduate research assistantships. NCEEER does not provide funding for research in the natural sciences.
- International travel must comply with the provisions of the Fly America Act, 49 U.S.C. 1517 (see 4 CFR Part 52 and 48 CFR Subpart 47.4), meaning that flights must be on an American carrier, where possible, and approved by NCEEER in advance.

2025 SHORT-TERM RESEARCH GRANTS FOR RESEARCH – SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

How to Apply

E-mail the application form and associated files as a single zipped attachment (.zip file) to apply@nceeer.org. Indicate "STTG Application: [your last name]" in the

subject line. **Note that letters of recommendation must be sent directly by the referees.**

After submitting your application by e-mail, you should receive a confirmation e-mail. If you do not receive the confirmation, please follow up with Dr. Dana Ponte, dana@nceeer.org, to ensure that your application was received.

Format of the Application

The Application must include the items listed below.

1. Application Form. Complete the Application Form using the instructions provided below.
2. Project Proposal. Please limit the proposal to four pages including footnotes; longer proposals may not be considered. **It must be double-spaced, in 12-point font, and in PDF or Microsoft Word format.** Since some of the reviewers may not be specialists in your field, make every effort to describe your research in language understandable to scholars in general.

Please follow this outline when preparing your proposal:

a) The nature of the research to be conducted. Describe in detail your research question and why the proposed research must be conducted abroad.

b) Need for research to be conducted in-country and feasibility. You need to explain why you feel this research needs to be done in the country (ies) you choose, and whether or not the research can be done adequately given the resources you have.

c) Level of language proficiency in languages of the country or region.

d) In the case of an invitation to an international scholar travel to the United States, the stated purpose of the visit and a detailed research justification for such a visit. This grant does provide for American scholars to bring scholars or researchers from Russia or countries in Central Asia, the Caucasus, and the Balkans to the United States.

3. Estimated Budget. Please download the budget form from www.nceeer.org. NCEEER uses the Department of State *per diem* rates are used, where applicable. Please feel free to contact NCEEER staff with any questions.
4. Curriculum Vitae. Include a CV, organized in chronological order. Please highlight any previous NCEEER awards and papers. **The CV should be no more than four pages** and in PDF or Microsoft Word format.
5. Two Letters of Recommendation. Please have two individuals familiar with your work and your proposal download; complete; and send directly to NCEEER the letter of recommendation form along with their letters. The form may be downloaded from www.nceeer.org. ***Please note that all letters of recommendation must include the recommender's physical or digital signature.***

Try to obtain at least one of the recommendations from someone outside your home institution. **You may not solicit letters of recommendation from the members of NCEEER's Board of Directors (view a Board List on the "Who We Are" section of the NCEEER website).**

Deadlines and Delivery

The deadline for applications is December 31, 2024.

NCEEER will review and evaluate the proposals and will notify you regarding the status of funding for your proposal on or before **March 1, 2025**.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

*Item 2, **Brief Description of Proposed Research.*** Please provide a two-three sentence description of your proposal. Include the goals of your research trip and a brief description of how you plan to accomplish these goals.

*Item 5, **Themes.*** Select up to three themes from the entire list.

*Items 8 and 9, **Requested Travel Dates.*** Applicants should select their proposed start and end dates bearing in mind that Grant funds may not be used for costs incurred outside the Grant period (March 1, 2025 through August 1, 2026).

*Item 14, **Total funds requested from NCEEER.*** Remember that the Short-Term Research Grant only provides funds of up to \$2,500. Thus, your request for funding may not exceed that amount.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR COMPLETING THE BUDGET

International Airfare. List airfare as a single line item. Leave the “No. of Days x Avg. Daily Rate” field blank, and just include the total cost.

Institutional cost-share is not required for this grant but should be listed in the budget if applicable.