

PRESLEY CENTER OF CRIME AND JUSTICE STUDIES

Fellowship Announcement

DEADLINE: April 24th, 2026

The Presley Center of Crime and Justice Studies is pleased to announce it is seeking applications for its annual graduate student research fellowships. The Presley Center was established at the University of California, Riverside by an act of the legislature to conduct research on crime and violence. To learn more about the Presley Center, please visit presleycenter.ucr.edu.

Proposals should advance empirical or theoretical research, must fit within the mission of the Presley Center, and be directly relevant and informative to criminal justice policy and practice in the State of California. Proposals that focus on interventions, community services, or community activism and have no research component will not be considered.

Fellowship awards are for one quarter, include a living stipend commensurate with the quarterly salary of a 49% appointment as a teaching assistant¹, and cover resident fees and tuition. (This award does not cover non-resident supplemental tuition).

This call for proposals is for the 2025-2026 Academic Year. Fellowship recipients may choose which quarter (Fall 2025, Winter 2026, or Spring 2026) to receive funding.

Eligibility and requirements. Fellowships are open to UCR PhD students in any discipline, who are in good standing in their program. Due to an agreement with Graduate Division and because funding is tied to year of entry, preference will be given to students who began at UCR during the 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 academic years. The Presley Center prefers to support graduate students who have not previously received this fellowship, but will consider applications from former recipients to support research that addresses new/different questions.

Fellows are required to provide a written report of their research by the end of the academic year in which they are funded and may be asked to give a public presentation at UCR about their research that was supported by the Presley Center. Public presentations can include informal departmental or area brown bag meetings; they may be arranged through the student's academic department and should be announced broadly and in a timely manner so that faculty and graduate students in other departments may attend. Written reports should include a description of the research activities and findings and should be written for a lay audience. Note that written reports are public documents

¹ See [UC Salary Scales](#) for up-to-date teaching assistant salaries. Fellowships are deemed taxable income pursuant to Section 117(A) of the Internal Revenue Code and may impact recipients' financial aid status if the award is used during the academic year. It is incumbent on the recipient to understand the tax and aid implications of the award prior to accepting the fellowship. If you have questions regarding your financial aid status, please contact UCR's Financial Aid Office.

and should be no longer than 3 single-spaced pages.

Application process. Proposals should include the following in a single PDF file:

1. A narrative description of the research that is no more than two pages and no more than one additional page of references. The narrative must be clearly understandable to a broad group of scholars outside of the specific area of the proposed research. The proposal should succinctly and clearly describe the general methodology of the research and its importance to criminal justice policy in California. (The narrative should be written in 12-point type with 1-inch margins.)
2. A short two-page CV. (CV should include relevant publications and presentations)
3. One letter of recommendation, preferably from the student's primary faculty mentor, or someone who is familiar with the research project.
4. For proposals that involve human participants, an application for human subjects research must be submitted to the UCR Institutional Review Board prior to submission of the proposal to the Presley Center. It is not necessary for the application to be approved before submitting the research proposal to the Presley Center. However, proposals that are selected for funding must have IRB approval before fellowships can be awarded.
5. For proposals that involve the participation of other organizations (e.g., schools, law enforcement, legal offices, etc.), a written statement of agreement from all participating agencies is required before the fellowships can be awarded.

Applicants should **send their applications as a single PDF file via email to the Presley Center at presleycenter@ucr.edu with the subject line "[Name] - Presley Center Fellowship"**.

Recommenders should **send their letters of recommendations separately to the Presley Center, with the student's name in the subject line.**

Questions regarding the fellowship or the application process should be directed to the Presley Center's Associate Director, Justine Ross (justine.ross@ucr.edu).

The deadline to submit proposals is Friday, April 24th, 20265.