

University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work  
**Child & Family Center for Innovative Research (CFCIR)**  
Child & Family Doctoral Dissertation Award (4/4/2022)

The Child & Family Center for Innovative Research (CFCIR) at the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work recognizes the importance of research successes in doctoral education. We will award doctoral students who propose and implement dissertation studies that demonstrate academic innovation with the CFCIR Child & Family Doctoral Dissertation Award.

**Eligibility:**

With funding availability from faculty grants for child and family research, the CFCIR offers awards annually for doctoral students currently enrolled in the Ph.D. Program in Social Work at the University of Houston. The applicant must be an active UH student taking either a pre-dissertation or dissertation course to propose or implement an impactful study on children, adolescents, and/or families.

These awards are competitive. Each application must meet the following requirements:

1. The applicant's dissertation study aims to promote the GCSW's mission with a significant impact on children, adolescents, and/or families.
2. The applicant's dissertation chair must endorse the application.
3. A one-page summary (single-spacing) with dissertation title and an abstract to demonstrate how this research meets the evaluation criteria: (1) Significance to social work; (2) Innovative design and inquiry; (3) Implications for children, adolescents, and/or families; (4) Promotion of GCSW vision "to achieve social, racial, economic, and political justice, local to global"; (5) Budget with justification supporting this application.
4. Fundable items up to \$1,000 may include research expenses, conference travel, and publication fees.
5. After the award announcement, each applicant must sign an acceptance form with the dissertation title. If the title has changed, they must acknowledge that the study focuses on children, adolescents, and families before the CFCIR Director forwards the award request to the GCSW Post-Award Coordinator.
6. There is no application due date. Applicants can email their award applications to the CFCIR Director from August to May unless funds are exhausted for the year. Applicants may resubmit the proposal in the next funding cycle, provided that the applicant will still be eligible.
7. The awardee may receive the award as a form of grant or scholarship based on fund allocation policy. As a grant, the awardee must file reimbursement on expenses while being enrolled at UH within a month with receipts.
8. The CFCIR Director and an invited reviewer will be judges. The CFCIR Director will inform the applicant of the review result with the award amount from \$0 to \$1,000.
9. A new application is allowed during a student's dissertation stage for budget items not previously funded from any sources. The maximum lifetime amount from this CFCIR award is \$1,000.
10. A limited amount of funds is available. Please consult [Dr. Monit Cheung](#), Director of CFCIR, for details.

University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work  
**Child & Family Center for Innovative Research (CFCIR)**  
Child & Family Doctoral Dissertation Award Application

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

PhD Candidacy Eligibility:  Proposal stage  "All but dissertation"

Doctoral courses currently enrolled (course#): \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ PeopleSoft ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Contact (Voice/Text): \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Dissertation Title:

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Proposal Approval Date: \_\_\_\_\_ or Proposal Defense Scheduled: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Prepare a one-page summary (single-spacing) with dissertation title and an abstract to demonstrate how this proposal meets the evaluation criteria: (1) Significance to social work; (2) Innovative research design and inquiry; (3) Implications for children and families; (4) Promotion of GCSW vision "to achieve social, racial, economic, and political justice, local to global"; (5) Budget with justification supporting this application.

\*Renewal Application: This applicant received a CFCIR award (amount \$\_\_\_\_\_) in \_\_\_\_\_ (year). The maximum lifetime CFCIR fund is \$1,000 per applicant.

4. Signed by Applicant:

I understand this award is competitively determined based on fund availability. I will follow UH's reimbursement procedures and scholarship requirements.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Endorsement by the applicant's Dissertation Chair

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge the applicant's dissertation proposal focuses on children, adolescents, and/or families.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work  
**Child & Family Center for Innovative Research (CFCIR)**  
Child & Family Doctoral Dissertation Award Notification

To: Awardee \_\_\_\_\_ (name) PS#: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations! You have been selected as a recipient of the CFCIR Child & Family Doctoral Dissertation Award for this academic year. Please sign and return this form to [Dr. Monit Cheung](#), Director of CFCIR, and consult with the [Post-Award Coordinator](#) regarding the award procedures. The award will expire upon your graduation from the GCSW's PhD Program.

CFCIR Director's Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Monit Cheung, PhD, LCSW

Award Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Grant (Must submit reimbursable receipts claimed within a month)
- Scholarship (Do not need to submit reimbursement requests but must meet the UH eligibility to receive a scholarship beyond other UH awards)

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From: Awardee \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Dissertation: \_\_\_\_\_

- I acknowledge that this study focuses on children, adolescents, and/or families.
- I accept this award and will follow UH's and GCSW's guidelines for the reward.

Signature of Awardee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Cc: Awardee and Dissertation Chair  
Susan Robbins, Associate Dean for Doctoral Education  
Lena Mitchell, Post Award Coordinator  
Sarah Narendorf, Associate Dean for Research