



The Institute for Business in the Global Context
[Student Research Fund](#)

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

December 1 (for Winter Break travel)

February 1 (for Spring Break travel)

April 1 (for Summer Break travel)

AWARDS UP TO \$2,000 FOR ORIGINAL RESEARCH AND DELIVERABLES

Note: IBGC is willing to accept applications outside of these time frames, funds permitting, with preference given to those that comply with the deadlines. The minimum lead time required to consider a request is three weeks.

The Fletcher School's Institute for Business in the Global Context (IBGC) was founded in recognition of the need for a new approach to the study of international business and capital markets—one that prepares global business leaders with essential “contextual intelligence.” Through our core activities—education, research, dialogue, and lab —the Institute provides an interdisciplinary lens through which global markets and the underlying drivers of change can be understood.

As a component of its research activities, the IBGC provides modest fellowships to Fletcher degree candidates in support of travel and primary research that explore topics directly relevant to international business, inclusive growth, and emerging market enterprises. We encourage students to work with IBGC staff and Fletcher professors to craft a research plan and deliverables which may also be used to fulfill academic or thesis/dissertation requirements. In addition, the IBGC considers student research to be a valuable contribution to program development and resource content, and may choose to feature student projects on its website or in its publications. Some student projects may be used to enhance existing or develop new IBGC initiatives. The core goals/focus of the research should be relevant to one of the topic areas listed below.

Relevant Topics:

- The IBGC's four core research areas: Inclusive Growth; Innovation and Change; Sovereign Wealth Funds and Global Capital Flows; Country Management (for full descriptions of these research topics, please visit our website at <https://sites.tufts.edu/ibgc/>).
- Core international business topics as covered by Fletcher faculty or fields of study
- Research supporting entrepreneurial ventures that are well aligned with Fletcher's academic strengths (IBGC does not envision funding as being used for seed or startup money, but rather for market research/product pilot testing only).

Guidelines for IBGC's Student Research Fund:

- **Activities supported:**

The IBGC will support projects that result in:

- Capstone or dissertation research
- Case studies
- Costs related to presentations at panels or conferences
- Market/field research for business plans, especially in emerging markets

The IBGC will **not** support:

- Cost to attend conferences as a participant/observer only
- Direct internship costs (though applicants may propose research that is performed at a site of an internship and/or research that is tied into a summer internship; if research is to be performed in conjunction with an internship, IBGC will request documentation from an internship coordinator to assure that the employer is aware of your intention to perform personal research and to assure your ability to produce a non-confidential research deliverable for IBGC).
- Research that is part of a work product for a business or organization

- **Review and notification:** Following each application deadline, the IBGC Selection Committee will review each application and make award determinations based on quality and appropriateness of projects proposed, student status (preference is given to continuing students), and availability of funds. Award amounts will be determined by relevance to IBGC core topics, depth of research proposal and methodologies, and available funds. Notifications will be made within three weeks of each deadline.

- **Please note:** Per the template provided, if proposed research involves human subjects and/or interviews, surveys, or interaction taking place with non-executive subjects, the IBGC requires proof of approval or exemption from the Tufts University Institutional Review Board (IRB). For IRB guidelines, please visit: <https://viceprovost.tufts.edu/sberirb>.

- **Award disbursement information:** Research awards will be disbursed as reimbursements once travel has been completed and/or other budgeted expenses have been incurred. This means that students will be responsible for covering up-front costs and then submitting detailed expense documentation after their travel/research completion in order to receive reimbursement. Awardees will be required to sign an IBGC funding agreement and will be responsible for appropriate expense report documentation and completion per Tufts University and IBGC guidelines.

- **Post-award requirements:** Upon completion of travel and research, awardees will have 30 days to complete the expense reimbursement process and provide a 600-800 word blog post with photos in order to receive their funds. If the research is part of a larger project (i.e., capstone, dissertation, independent research or case study), a final deliverable to be published on the IBGC website and to be determined by the researcher and IBGC staff (i.e., a research paper, market study, or other comparable product that can be used to enhance IBGC programs and resources) is required to be submitted before the student graduates from The Fletcher School.

Visit <https://sites.tufts.edu/ibgc/students/experiential-learning/elf/> to apply

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