



American
Philosophical
Association

Grant Application

Visit <http://www.apaonline.org/?grantfund> to submit.

Contact Information

Contact Name: _____

Email Address: _____

APA Member? Yes No *Only APA members may submit grant applications. Membership will be verified.*

Funding Information

Fiscal Agent: _____

Fiscal Agent Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Total Funding Amount Requested: _____ *Proposals over \$5,000 normally are not funded.*

Project Information

Project Title: _____

Abstract: _____ *Maximum 150 words.*

Steering Committee

Name	Institutional Affiliation	APA Member?
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Attach a brief resume for each member of the steering committee (maximum two pages per person) highlighting that member's activities and achievements relevant to the project.

Project Purpose

Provide a brief account of the project's purpose, explaining its benefits for the profession and/or how it involves community outreach. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Project Status

Describe the groundwork already laid for the project or, in the case of projects involving community outreach, the relationships already developed in the community. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Project Plan and Timeline

Attach additional pages as necessary.

Outreach Plan

Describe how the project will be advertised to the larger philosophical and/or lay public. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Accessibility Plan

If the proposal involves public lectures, performances, presentations, or films, describe how the project will be accessible for disabled persons, including deaf/hard of hearing and blind/visually impaired individuals. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Evaluation Plan

Describe how the project will be assessed at its completion with an eye to what worked and what could be improved. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Website Plan

If the proposal includes the creation of a website, complete the following items:

Where will the website be hosted? _____

Website URL (if known): _____

Do you want the APA to link to the project website? Yes No

If yes, in what page(s) or section(s) on the APA website would you like the link to appear?

Budget

Attach additional pages as necessary.

Project expense item	Anticipated date(s) of expense	Budget Amount	Amount confirmed or requested from other sources	Amount requested from APA
Totals:				

Proposals requesting more than \$5,000 normally are not funded.

2012

- 1) The anonymous bloggers at ProPhilosophy¹ emailed departments requesting data on the placement of graduate students into tenure-track or postdoctoral positions in 2011-2012. They heard back from **64 departments** and compiled the data [here](#).
- 2) I next gathered data on gender and publications for the placed candidates, reporting my findings [here](#).
- 3) Finally, I reported some findings [here](#):
 - a. **230 placements** were reported for 2011-2012, 28.7% of which were postdoctoral positions.
 - b. Most of the tenure-track jobs went to candidates in metaphysics and epistemology fields, whereas most of the postdoctoral positions went to candidates in value theory fields.
 - c. 56% of those hired for tenure-track jobs and 80% of those hired for postdoctoral jobs did not have prior positions.
 - d. 30.5% of those hired for tenure-track jobs were women, but only 21% hired for postdoctoral jobs were women.
 - e. The median number of peer-reviewed publications was 1 for both tenure-track and postdoctoral hires (0 for [top-15 publications](#)).

2013

- 1) The anonymous bloggers at ProPhilosophy again emailed departments requesting data on the placement of graduate students into tenure-track or postdoctoral positions in 2012-2013. They heard back from **81 departments** and compiled the data [here](#).
- 2) I again gathered data on gender and publications, reporting my findings [here](#)²:
 - a. **268 placements** were reported for 2012-2013, 34.7% of which were postdoctoral positions.
 - b. Most jobs (tenure-track and postdoctoral) went to candidates in value theory fields, followed by metaphysics and epistemology fields.
 - c. The proportion of hires with no reported prior positions was 49.7% for tenure-track positions and 84.9% for postdoctoral positions.
 - d. The proportion of women hires was 34.3% for tenure-track positions and

¹ I do not know the identity of these bloggers. They approached me by email and offered their support in helping to gather data and by providing a platform for the findings.

² In 2012 I was invited to join the NewAPPS bloggers due to my efforts with placement data. Because of the larger circulation and transparency of that blog, in 2013 I posted my results there instead of at ProPhilosophy.

26.9% for postdoctoral positions, both of which were an increase from 2012.

- e. The median number of peer-reviewed publications was 1 for both tenure-track and postdoctoral hirees (0 for [top-15 publications](#)).

2014

- 1) I initially created a Google form to improve data gathering, which was hosted at a few blogs (NewAPPS, ProPhilosophy, and DailyNous), but the need for that form became obsolete with the new PhilAppointments page, which was partly seeded by the results of that form. From PhilAppointments alone, I had data on **303 placements**.
- 2) In 2013 I sought to compare placement and graduation numbers, using the 2012 APA Guide to Graduate Programs, but I found too many gaps in the data. In 2014, I started with the 2013 Guide and then supplemented this data by emailing the department chairs for all those departments for which I had placement, but not graduation data. Through this process, I added 24 new placements and built up the graduation data to **100 departments**.
- 3) I reported several trends for these three years of data. On [gender](#), I found that 30.91% of the placed candidates were women, which is very close in number to the percentage of women who earn doctorates in philosophy in the United States: [30.47% in 2009](#), according to one APA source. On first-reported [area of specialization](#), I found that the plurality of tenure-track positions went to candidates in value theory fields, whereas the plurality of postdoctoral/VAP/instructor positions went to candidates in metaphysics and epistemology fields, with value theory fields a close second. I used graduation data to estimate an [overall placement rate](#) for new graduates of around 27%, and I reported those departments with [placement rates higher than 50%](#). Most controversially, I discussed the relationship between placement rate and [rank in the PGR survey](#). I used the occasion of that controversy to seek opinion on this data and how to improve my methods for 2015. I offer plans for this below.

2015

- 1) I aim to add information about the hiring institution to the data set, such as its location and Carnegie Classification.
- 2) I aim to be clearer with my language and methods, to avoid confusion about the data and subsequent reports.
- 3) I aim to cross-reference PhilAppointments with individual placement pages.
- 4) Because those collecting, analyzing, and reporting the data should be as neutral as possible with respect to hypotheses and results, over the next year I aim to form a task force to work on placement data, composed of several people who have reached out to me over the past week or so to help with this effort.