

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
APA Division 15 (Educational Psychology)
Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award

The Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award recognizes excellence in doctoral dissertation research that has been completed within the past two years.

Eligibility

The applicant must be a member, affiliate, or student member of Division 15 and must have completed a dissertation in an area of educational psychology research at an accredited college or university within the past two calendar years. *This year's applicants must have completed their dissertation between January 1, 2008, and December 31, 2009.* Applicants who are still graduate students must have had their final dissertation approved by their doctoral committee prior to application. Departments/programs may endorse no more than three students per year for the award.

Award Description

One Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award will be given each year. The award includes a \$500 cash stipend, a plaque of recognition, an invitation to present the dissertation at the following APA annual meeting (winners selected in 2010 will be invited to present at the 2011 conference), and up to \$1000 for the recipient's travel and registration expenses for the 2011 APA conference.

Award Timeline

The Dissertation Award Committee will examine all eligible applications. The award decision will be made in March of each year and applicants will be notified of the award decision in May. Due to conference programming deadlines, the award will be granted at the following year's APA Convention (i.e., approximately 18 months later). The 2010 Dissertation Award will be given at the APA Convention in Washington, DC, August 4-7, 2011.

How and When to Apply

A completed application should contain the following four components. Please note the file format requirements for each component.

1. An **application cover sheet**. Download the application cover sheet in PDF format from the awards web site: <http://www.uky.edu/~eushe2/div15>. You can write directly on the file. Please name this file according to the following convention: **yourlastname_coversheet.pdf**. This document should be submitted as a PDF (.pdf file extension) file. We strongly suggest that you use the latest version of Acrobat Reader to complete the cover sheet. Acrobat Reader 9 is free for download (<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>).
2. An **extended abstract** that is typed, 2000-word maximum, double-spaced in APA style. With their abstract, applicants may include up to two additional pages for tables and/or figures, and one additional page for a list of references. Please name this file according to the following convention: **yourlastname_abstract.doc**. This document should be submitted as a Microsoft Word file (.doc file extension).
3. A **narrative autobiography** (250-word maximum) describing salient research experiences, publications and/or presentations, past collaborative efforts, and career plans. (Do not submit your curriculum vitae.) Please name this file according to the following convention: **yourlastname_autobiography.doc**. This document should be submitted as a Microsoft Word file (.doc file extension).

4. A **letter of nomination** (two-page maximum) from the faculty member associated with the completion of the dissertation. The letter must be signed by the faculty member. This letter should be scanned and included in your email. Please name this file according to the following convention: **yourlastname_facultynomination.pdf**. Microsoft Word (.doc) format is also acceptable.

Electronically submit the above components in one email with four separate e-mail attachments to the committee chair, Ellen Usher (ellen.usher@uky.edu). Submissions must be received no later than 5 p.m. EST on **Thursday, December 31, 2009**. Incomplete applications will not be considered for the award.

Evaluation Criteria

All application materials submitted for consideration for the Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award will be evaluated by the Award Committee. Dissertation abstracts will be judged by the Award Committee on a scale from 1 (*poor*) to 7 (*outstanding*) along the following dimensions:

1. **Significance.** The theoretical or practical significance to the field should be evident.
2. **Quality of Writing.** The abstract should be organized and clear.
3. **Quality of Research.** The abstract should reflect high quality research.
4. **Interpretation.** The conclusions drawn are valid and well grounded.

The Award Committee will consider the content and quality of the dissertation abstract and other application materials when making an overall ranking of the award applicants.

Please visit <http://www.uky.edu/~eushe2/div15> for more information on Division 15 dissertation awards.