



The 2017 B. F. Skinner Foundation Student Research Award: A Call for Research Proposals

Application Deadline: JUNE 20, 2017

The [B. F. Skinner Foundation](#), in association with the Student Relations Committee of The Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BABAT), sponsors this award for graduate student research. A plaque and a \$500 award are given to the winner of the competition at the annual BABAT conference in mid-October.

Purpose of the Award

- To support and encourage research efforts in behavior analysis among graduate students
- To promote Skinnerian science
- To boost the overall quality of academic research in behavior analysis
- To provide recognition for students conducting behavior analytic research (through a publication in the online newsletter [Operants](#))

Criteria

- A. An applicant must be a graduate student in behavior analysis or a related discipline (e.g., special education or psychology).
- B. This award is for a research proposal. It is not for a completed research project.
- C. The proposal must be for a student-driven research project, thesis, or dissertation approved by the student's department of study.
- D. Applicants do not have to be in a behavior analysis graduate program, but the research must be behavior analytic in nature. Consideration will be given to proposals that describe research with a focus on observable and measurable behavior (or the products thereof) as the dependent variable and the manipulation of well-defined environmental events as independent variables. Both applied and basic research proposals are encouraged. Applied research proposals should correspond to the guidelines suggested by Baer, Wolf, and Risley (1968, 1987). Basic research proposals should correspond to the criteria set forth in Sidman (1960/1988). Those submitting proposals are encouraged to look to the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* or the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior* for examples of behavior analytic research.

In order to be accepted, the packet must contain:

1. **A cover letter** with the student's contact information, where s/he is attending school, his or her program of study, the title of the project, and what s/he intends to do with the award. The award can be used for almost anything, but preference will be given to direct research-related use, such as equipment, software, paying data collectors, purchasing reinforcers for participants, etc. For equipment or software, explain how it will be used in the research project. (One page.)
2. **A letter of support** (or email) from a supervising faculty. The letter should attest to the fact that the research is replicating/expanding knowledge in the field of behavior analysis.
3. **A Title**
4. **An Abstract** (500 words or fewer) outlining the research project.
5. **An Introduction** indicating why this research is important, how it relates to Baer et al. (1968, 1987) or Sidman (1960/1988), some supporting literature, and the research question. (No more than 3 pages.)
6. **A Method section** indicating the design (ABAB, multiple baseline, etc.), the number of proposed participants, from where the participants will be recruited, the general timeline of the research, and an overview of the procedures that will be used. Exacting details are not needed, but the reviewer should be able to determine the feasibility of the study from the information provided. (No more than 3 pages.)

Submission Procedures

1. The materials including the cover letter, Abstract, Introduction, Method, and References sections must be sent as a **Word document** to: StudentRelations@babat.org.
2. The entire proposal packet must **not exceed 9 pages**, including the reference page.
3. The Abstract, Introduction, and Method sections must be in APA style manuscript form: double-spaced, 12-point font, Times New Roman font, and 1-inch margins.
4. The faculty letter of support should be emailed from the supporting professor's email address to: StudentRelations@babat.org.
5. **Deadline: June 20, 2017**

References

Baer, D. M., Wolf, M. M., & Risley, T. R. (1968). Some current dimensions of applied behavior analysis. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 1, 91-97.

Baer, D. M., Wolf, M. M., & Risley, T. R. (1987). Some still-current dimensions of applied behavior analysis. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 20, 313-328.

Sidman, M. (1988). *Tactics of scientific research*. Sarasota, FL: Authors Cooperative. (Original work published 1960)