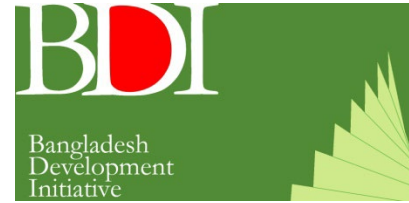


Bangladesh Development Initiative (BDI)

5541 Bondy Drive, Erie, PA 16509, USA

www.bdiusa.org



Bangladesh Development Initiative (BDI)

Dissertation Proposal Award

The BDI Dissertation Proposal Award supports doctoral students of any nationality who have a.) a high-quality dissertation proposal focused on Bangladesh and approved by any U.S. or Canadian university, and b.) are prepared to undertake original, rigorous, and impactful research that will ultimately benefit Bangladesh. The award is intended to facilitate dissertation completion by providing financial support in the amount of US\$1,000 during the research and writing phases of the applicant's doctoral program.

I. Dissertation Proposal Award Requirements

Applicants must:

- Be enrolled as a doctoral student at any U.S. or Canadian university in good academic standing at the time of application.
- Have completed all required coursework and qualifying/comprehensive examinations, if applicable.
- Have an approved dissertation committee.
- Submit a dissertation proposal that has been formally approved by the dissertation committee.

II. Application Materials

Applicants must submit the following:

1. Dissertation Proposal

A complete proposal includes:

- Title of the dissertation.
- Statement of the research problem.
- Research questions and/or hypotheses.
- Theoretical or conceptual framework.
- Research design and methodology.
- Data collection and analysis plan.
- Timeline for completion.

2. Curriculum Vitae (CV)

A current CV highlighting:

- Educational background.
- Any publications (if available).
- Any research or work experience (if available).
- Awards and honors (if available).

3. Letter of Support

A brief letter from the Dissertation Chair of the applicant's Dissertation Committee confirming that:

- The dissertation proposal has been approved by the applicant's Dissertation Committee.
- The applicant has completed all required coursework and qualifying/comprehensive examinations, if applicable.
- The applicant is enrolled as a student at the time of application for this award.
- The dissertation has not been defended at the time of application for this award.

4. Academic Transcript

An unofficial or official graduate transcript documenting academic progress.

III. Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

1. Scholarly Merit (50%)

- Importance of the research topic for Bangladesh's prospects.
- Originality, innovation, and/or policy relevance.
- Potential contribution to knowledge and practice.

2. Research Design and Methodology (30%)

- Clarity of research questions.
- Appropriateness of methods.
- Feasibility and rigor of the proposed study.

3. Impact and Dissemination (20%)

- Potential academic, professional, or societal significance.

IV. Responsibilities of Awardees

Recipients are expected to:

- Acknowledge award support in presentations, publications, and reports resulting from the funded research.
- Submit the completed dissertation within one month after graduation.

V. Submission Deadline

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, with the award expected to be made each year in January, based on applications made in the previous calendar year. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applications have to be sent by EM (with PDF attachments for the required application materials, see above) to info@bdiusa.org. Each applicant will receive an EM confirmation within three weeks.

VI. Limitations / Reservations

By submitting any application, any applicant agrees that:

- BDI's decision cannot be appealed or legally challenged.
- The members of BDI's Selection Committee remain confidential.
- BDI reserves the right to cancel this award anytime.
- BDI reserves the right to not make any award in any specific year for any reason.
- BDI will not give the award to anyone more than once.