



Phi Delta Kappa  
Educational Foundation

**2011-2012**

## Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award

**P**DK announces its annual Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award, which is funded through the PDK Educational Foundation. One cash award of \$5,000 will be awarded for the doctoral dissertation judged to be the outstanding submission in 2011-2012, and a summary of the winning research will be published in a spring 2012 issue of *Phi Delta Kappan*. This is a well-respected award within the education community.

### ***Eligibility Criteria:***

1. The nominee must be a member of PDK.
2. The nominee must be a recent graduate of an accredited college or university.
3. The nominee's major field must be in education, or the dissertation must focus on an educational topic.
4. The nominee's dissertation must have been completed (approved by the doctoral committee and accepted by the graduate school or school of education) between September 1, 2010, and August 31, 2011.
5. The dissertation must represent sound scholarship. The knowledge presented and the conclusions drawn must hold promise for the improvement of education. (Entries are not limited to a particular kind of research.)

### ***Submission Requirements*** – Nominees must submit all of the following:

1. Application form (included in this brochure)
2. Dissertation summary
  - The summary should address all the items included in the “Required Content of Dissertation Summary,” including purpose, design, results, and presentation.
  - The summary should include the title of the dissertation and the pages should be numbered.
  - The summary should be 1,000 to 1,500 words in length, excluding the bibliography.
  - The summary must not include identifying information about the author/researcher or the degree-granting institution. Identifying information about subjects or sample populations is permissible.
  - The bibliography should include only the citations used in the summary.

3. Letter of endorsement from the chair of the dissertation committee
4. Transcript verifying that the doctorate degree was awarded by the institution

***Timelines and Selection***

1. Application and supporting materials must be postmarked and submitted to PDK International by mail, fax, or e-mail no later than September 1, 2011. No entry will be accepted that is postmarked or submitted after this date.
2. Entries will be judged by a review panel from higher education.
3. All applicants will be notified of the names of the finalists. Finalists will be asked to submit a copy of the full dissertation for review by the selection panel.
4. Results of the competition will be announced by e-mail and on the PDK website in spring 2012.

The winner will receive a \$5,000 cash award. The outstanding dissertation summary will be published in a spring 2012 issue of *Phi Delta Kappan*.



**Contact Information for PDK Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award:**

Scholarships  
Phi Delta Kappa International  
408 N. Union Street  
P.O. Box 7888  
Bloomington, IN 47407-7888  
Phone: 800-766-1156 • Fax: 812-339-0018  
E-mail: [customerservice@pdkintl.org](mailto:customerservice@pdkintl.org)  
Website: [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org)

## Required Content of Dissertation Summary

**Purpose** – This section will include:

- The overall purpose of the study and its importance/relevance based upon the literature review.
- Statement of the problems/research questions/hypotheses.
- Clarification of the study's limitations and assumptions.

Note: It is neither necessary nor desirable to summarize the literature review.

**Design** - This section will include:

- Research design, i.e., qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods.
- Methods used for site/sample selection, including randomness and size of the sample, use of the experimental/control groups, and measures to protect individual privacy and dignity of the subjects.
- Description of interview protocols, surveys instruments, or existing data sets, including development/origin of data collection instruments, codifying principles, and quality of existing data.
- Description of data analysis procedures, including appropriate use of statistics.

**Results** - This section will include:

- Listing of the results related back to original problem statements/research questions/hypotheses.
- Description of conclusions and their grounding in the data.
- Significance of the results and implications for further study.

**Presentation** - In addition to the sections above, the summary will be judged on:

- Clarity and preciseness of the written summary.
- Inclusion of necessary elements needed to evaluate fairly.
- Inclusion of the dissertation's title and the numbering of pages.
- Consistent use of a style, such as APA or Chicago.
- Length of summary (no more than 1,500 words, not including the bibliography).

Application

## Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award

Make certain that all information on this form is completed before you submit it. **Please print or key in** the information. The applicant must be a member of PDK. Entries must be postmarked, e-mailed, or faxed no later than September 1, 2011.

Title of Dissertation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

PDK Member ID Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Province, Zip/Postal Code, Country \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Granting Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Date Dissertation Accepted \_\_\_\_\_

Major Field of Study \_\_\_\_\_

**Supporting documentation is attached as follows:**

- Dissertation summary
- Transcript
- Endorsement letter from chair of dissertation committee

**Entries must be postmarked, e-mailed, or faxed no later than September 1, 2011.**



**Send all application materials to:**

Dissertation Award  
Phi Delta Kappa International  
408 N. Union Street  
P.O. Box 7888  
Bloomington, IN 47407-7888  
Fax: 812-339-0018  
E-mail: [customerservice@pdkintl.org](mailto:customerservice@pdkintl.org)