Federal funding possibilities for accounting history research

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An independent grant-making agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), was established by Congress in 1965 to support research, education, and public projects in the humanities. Included in the definition of the term humanities is the study of history. Of particular interest to accounting historians is that NEH encourages and supports advanced study and research in the disciplines of the humanities through its fellowship, summer stipends, and travel to collections programs. Each of these programs will be highlighted below.

**Fellowship**

The National Endowment for the Humanities offers two separate fellowship programs for college and university faculty members. One program, Fellowships for College Teachers, is intended for teachers, who primarily teach undergraduate students at a two-year, four-year, or five-year colleges and at universities that do not have Ph.D. programs. The other program, Fellowships for Independent Study and Research, is intended for individuals affiliated with academic institutions with extensive Ph.D. programs in the humanities. Both programs provide opportunities for individuals to pursue independent study and research that will enhance the researcher’s capabilities as a teacher, scholar, and interpreter of the humanities.

**Summer Stipends**

The NEH’s Summer Stipends Program provides support for faculty members in two-year and four-year colleges, and universities so that they can devote two consecutive months of full-time study and research to their projects. An applicant’s project may be one that can be completed during the stipend period, or it may be part of a long-range endeavor.

Each college and university in the United States and its territorial possessions may nominate three members of its faculty for the Summer Stipends competition. No more than two of the nominees may be at either the early stages of their careers or the advanced stage.

**Travel to Collections**

The Travel to Collections Program was designed to enable American scholars to travel to the research collections of libraries, archives, museums, or other repositories to consult research materials of fundamental importance for the progress of the scholar’s work. The grant program is intended to assist individual scholars defraying the costs associated with a research trip to those collections within North America or Western Europe. Preference is given to those scholars who have no other source of funding for the research trip proposed. The amount of the award is limited to $500 and only research trips whose costs exceed that amount will be considered for the award.

Please note that candidates for degrees and persons seeking support for work leading to a degree are not eligible for any of these programs. For more information on these programs contact the National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, D.C. 20506 or the research office on your campus.