



RRBM Dare to Care Dissertation Scholarship Awards

2026 Application Preparation Info Session

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Welcome and Introduction

- Today's Focus:
 - Application Preparation
 - Q&A - chat and open discussion
- See rrbm.network/daretocare for:
 - Scholarship Overview Slides (general information)
 - Application Guidelines (downloadable PDF)

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About the Award

Purpose

Recognize and support emerging business and management scholars who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to responsible research that matters to society.

(See <https://www.rrbm.network/position-paper/principles-of-responsible-science/>)

The Scholarship Includes

- Financial support in the form of a scholarship of \$10,000
- Intellectual support from among the community of RRBM scholars, according to need
- Membership in the college of active Dare to Care Dissertation Scholars who continue to learn with and from one another

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About the Award: Eligible Applicants

- Doctoral students enrolled in business schools
- At the beginning stage of the dissertation research
 - Clear research question
 - Well-developed methodology
 - Has passed any qualifying exams applicable to their program
 - Expects to complete research within 12 to 24 months from the award date of May 1, 2026
- Demonstrate a commitment to the RRBM Principles of Responsible Research

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Eligible Research Topics

Will generate knowledge or ideas to reduce inequality or promote social justice, especially focusing on the role of business organizations. Topics may include but are not limited to:

- Reducing income inequality;
- Improving racial or gender equity;
- Providing equal access to resources and opportunities;
- Enhancing stakeholder well-being; etc.

Actionable ideas (IVs) to achieve any of the above goals (DVs)

See prior year winners at <https://www.rrbm.network/dare-to-care-scholarship-winners/>

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Most Suitable Topics

- Proposals that focus on any of the following outcomes (dependent variables).
 - Economic justice, i.e., less income inequality, living wages for lower-level employees.
 - Social justice, i.e., less inequalities related to race, gender, socioeconomic, as well as disability-related inequalities within organizations.
 - Societal or community justice, i.e., how MNCs contribute to justice in host countries such as reducing poverty and inequality, improving employment opportunity, community development, and climate justice.
- Proposals that provide actionable knowledge or ideas that firms or managers can use to develop policies or practices (i.e., the independent variables)
- Topic fit must be evident for both the independent and dependent variables.

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Least Suitable Topics

- DVs:
 - Proposals that have no direct relationship to any injustice outcomes.
 - Proposals on primarily economic outcomes or innovation to improve economic performance of firms.
- IVs:
 - Proposals that focus on independent variables that are not amenable to managerial actions or not usable for informing policies to reduce injustice or improve justice.
 - Examples at micro levels: Employees' actions, behaviors, or personality attributes that allow them to cope with injustice or to alleviate the injustice experience of others, but not ideas for any organizational or managerial actions.
 - Examples at macro level: Exogeneous conditions or institutional factors outside the control of management (e.g., societal culture or government policies as explanations of inequality in different regions).

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Application Requirements

- 1. Proposal**
- 2. Two written recommendations or references (via online form)**
 - *(Required)* Thesis Advisor
 - *(Choose one)* Business school dean or equivalent, PhD program director or thesis committee members
- 3. Curriculum vita (CV)**

Submit online at www.rrbm.network/daretocare (Online Form + Document Upload)

Open January 1, 2026 – January 31, 2026

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Proposal

Maximum 10 double-spaced pages (12-point font size, 1-inch margins, approximately 3000 words) exclusive of references, tables, figures, and appendices.

→ As needed, up to five additional pages for references, tables, figures and appendices.

Seven sections:

1. Research question
2. Motivation and explanation
3. Literature and contribution
4. Methods
5. Engaged scholarship and potential impact
6. Responsible research principles
7. Research period and budget

All required sections must be:

- Included
- Clearly labeled
- In the requested order

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Proposal: 1-3. Research Question & Explanation, Literature

- 1. Research question** – Provide a succinct statement of the major research question being investigated and any sub-questions.
- 2. Motivation and explanation** - Explain briefly why you chose the research question and how it relates to the “Eligible Research Topics and Methods” described above
- 3. Literature and contribution** – Explain briefly (no more than 15 references) what the literature informs about your question and the value-added contributions of your study.

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Proposal: 4. Methods

We expect a well-developed and rigorous methodology to address a clearly stated research question.

We encourage the use of multiple methods, including:

- qualitative (case studies, observations, text analysis),
- quantitative (surveys, archival empirical), and
- experimentation (lab and field).

We especially like to see research that:

- Is inter-disciplinary (P3) and/or involves stakeholders in the research process (P5)
- Incorporates intervention field studies, using randomized controlled trials (RCT) that robustly test theory-informed ideas/treatments (actions, policies, programs)

See the [principles of responsible research](#).

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Proposal: 5. Engaged Scholarship & Potential Impact

Engaged scholarship - Explain whether and how your research engages relevant stakeholders in the various stages of the research process.

Potential impact – Explain who will benefit from the findings of your research, how your research findings may inform managerial or business practices or policies, and how your research may influence business and management to contribute to a better society.

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Proposal: 6. Responsible Research Principles

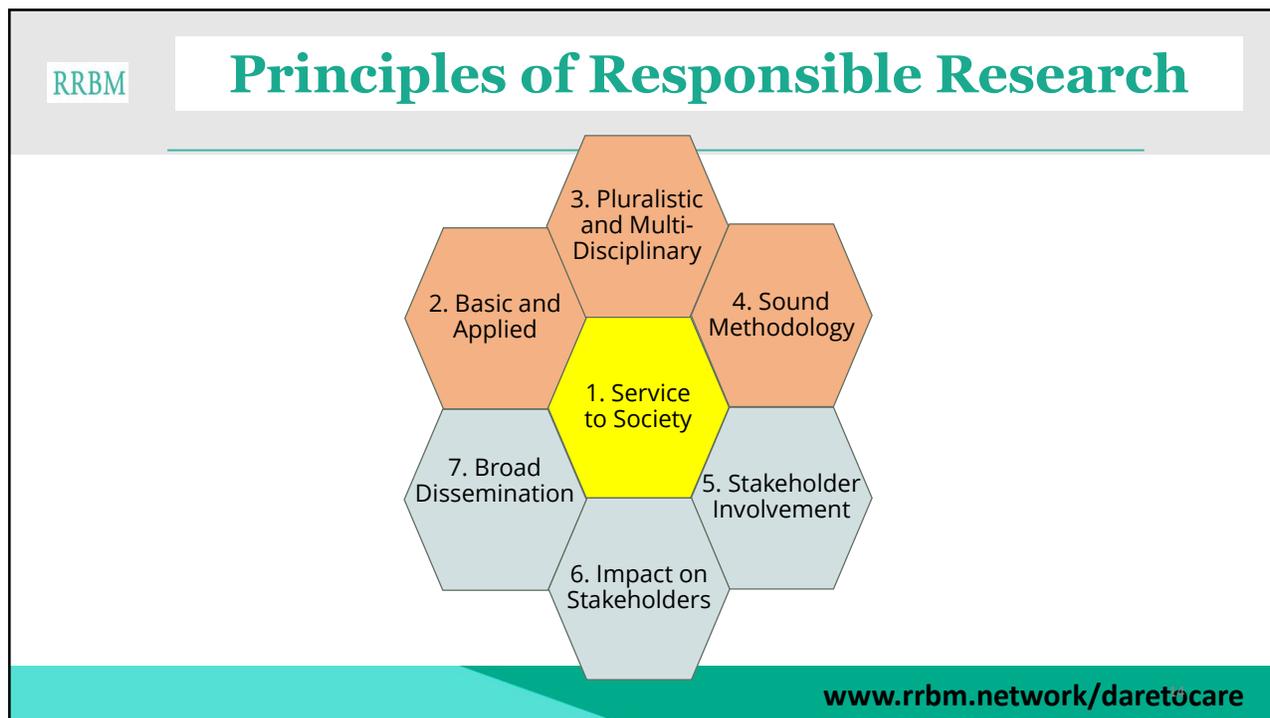
Alignment with responsible research principles – Summarize how your proposal design aligns with the seven principles of responsible research.

→Tips:

- May use a narrative or bullet points. Keep this section brief.
- Does not need to reflect all seven principles; if one is not relevant do not force it.
- DO** demonstrate your familiarity with the seven principles and show how adherence to the principles improves the research.
- Read the seven [principles of responsible research](https://www.rrbm.network/daretocare).

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Proposal: 7. Research period & budget

- **Research period** – Describe the anticipated timeline for the proposed research. In general, we expect that the research should be completed within 12 to 24 months from the award date (May 1, 2026).
- **Research budget** – Briefly describe, in no more than two to three sentences, the greatest area of need in terms of financial support or how you intend to use the scholarship award related to your dissertation research.

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The Application Form

Submit online at www.rrbm.network/daretocare January 1, 2026 - January 31, 2026

Form includes:

- About You
- About Your Proposal
- Upload Proposal*
- Upload CV*
- Names/Emails of References

* Accepted file types: pdf, doc, docx
Max. file size: 256 MB

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The Application Form – About You

- **Applicant Info** - Name, Email, Country of Residence, Website
- **Business School** - University, Business School, Department, Country
- **Independent vs Team** - Are you pursuing this dissertation research independently or as part of a research team? If part of a team, explain your role in the project.
- **Timeline** - Approximate number of months between the award date (May 2026) and your anticipated date of dissertation completion defense.

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The Application Form – About Your Proposal

- **Dissertation Title/Research Question** [280 max characters, about 50 words]
- **Keywords** - Provide up to 5 keywords that describe your research and reflect its relation to the scholarship's focus on promoting justice, especially through business and management. [280 max characters]
- **Inspiration** - What was the inspiration for this question? [500 max characters, about 90 words]
- **Dependent Variables** - What is/are the dependent variable(s) being tested that relate to justice outcomes? [280 max characters]
- **Discipline** - Select the disciplinary area(s) that best fit your research proposal from among the provided options.
- **Methods** - Select the methods used in the research from among the provided options.

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The Application Form – Reference Writers

Names & Emails of Two References (via online form)

1. (Required) Thesis Advisor
2. (Choose one) Business school dean or equivalent, PhD program director or thesis committee members

Reference writers will receive an email with a link to an online form. The form will ask reference writers to:

- a. Comment on the strength of the proposal and your qualification for this award, and
- b. Verify the anticipated completion time of the research project

*We strongly suggest that you notify your references in advance of their receipt of the email. **Reference forms will not be accepted after February 7, 2026.***

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Deadlines

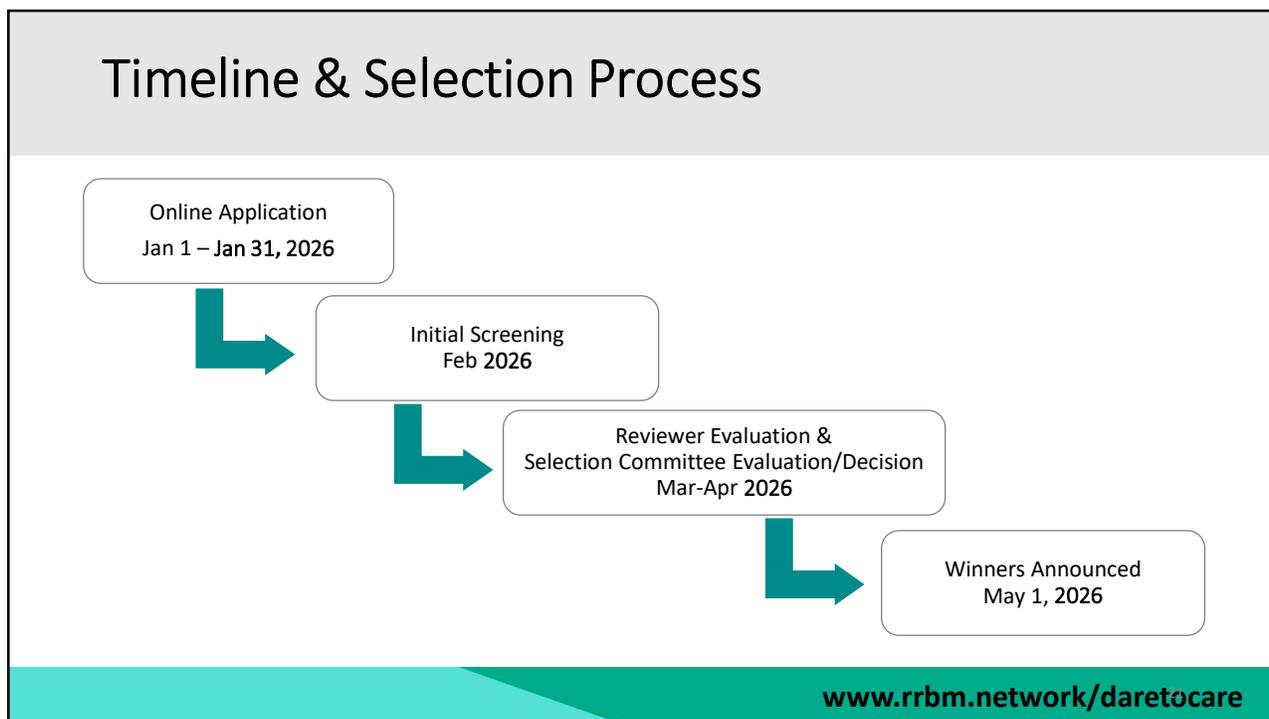
- **Application forms: January 31, 2026**
- **Reference writers' online forms: February 7, 2026**

Applications and reference forms must be received by these dates in order to be considered for this year's award. There are no exceptions.

RRBM reserves the right to disqualify any applications with proposals that do not contain all requested components clearly labeled, and/or do not adhere to the length requirements.

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Do & Don't

Don't submit your actual dissertation proposal.

Do write a proposal that includes the requested components *and* connects your research to the justice theme and RRBM principles.

Don't surprise your reference writers with the online request.

Do notify your reference writers in advance, share your proposal, and follow-up with reminders of their response deadline.

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Helpful Resources

- www.rrbm.network/daretocare:
 - Application Guidelines PDF (detailed information about requirements)
 - Frequently Asked Questions about the scholarship
 - Philosophical Foundations of Responsible Research course syllabus and recommended reading
- www.rrbm.network:
 - Position Paper
 - Awards, Events, and more (Check out Actions - Events - Online Events)
 - Join the community to stay informed of upcoming initiatives
 - Endorse the position paper

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Questions?

- Type questions in the chat
- Email questions to d2c.rrbm@gmail.com

Reminder: FAQs at <https://www.rrbm.network/daretocare/#FAQ>

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