



Oral History Use Fellowship Application Instructions

The Kentucky Historical Society (KHS) awards one short-term oral history fellowship to a visiting scholar for one to four weeks of residency. Applications are due at KHS by **March 1**. Grantees are typically notified within six weeks. Grantees will be required to provide their Social Security numbers for tax purposes. Because of state regulations, Kentucky state employees are not eligible for these fellowships. (Kentucky public school teachers and state university employees are eligible, however.) **Awardees must use funds within the calendar year from the date of the award.** Awardees can apply for research support as needed, but awards will not be given to the same recipient in consecutive years. KHS encourages fellows to submit an article-length manuscript, drawn from research conducted while a fellow, for possible publication in the state history journal, the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*.

This fellowship funds the use of oral histories. If you are interested in funding to create, index, transcribe, or present oral histories, please consider applying for [Kentucky Oral History Commission grants](#).

Applications should be emailed (as a single Word or PDF document) to KHSFellowships@ky.gov. If you have any questions, please contact KHS at the above email address or at 502-564-1792.

Applicants must submit a cover page, curriculum vitae, and prospectus.

The cover page should state the applicant's name, address, daytime phone, email address, title of project, and anticipated dates of visit. The title page should also include institutional affiliation, field(s) of study, and classification (MA, ABD, PhD, etc.). Scholars without institutional affiliation will also be considered for funding. Graduate students must include two letters of recommendation (preferably under the same cover) from faculty members familiar with the student's work and with the project being proposed.

The three- to five-page prospectus should describe your current project and emphasize how it would benefit from oral history research at KHS. Include a project overview, theoretical perspectives, sources, methods, work completed to date, necessity of KHS oral history collections research, significance of the project, and a budget. The prospectus must also include an annotated bibliography of the KHS oral histories you wish to consult. Available histories can be found at passtheword.ky.gov. KHS supports research on all aspects of Kentucky, including work which occurs at other regional repositories. If you wish to also visit other archives in Kentucky, you must identify the repositories you intend to visit and include those visits in your proposed residency timeline. The budget should estimate how you would use your fellowship to maximize your research time. Applicants should consult our website, history.ky.gov, for up-to-date information about Schmidt Library hours of operation (**Note, the library is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**).

In the prospectus, make sure to cover the following points:

- What is the end product of your project?
- What KHS oral history collections or resources will aid you?
- Why is oral history essential to your project?
- Will you use oral histories in tandem with other archival material? If so, which collections?
- How much time do you intend to spend at KHS?
- What is the estimated timetable for your project?
- What are your proposed dates of residency?

Relevant materials can be found in the KHS [catalogs and research tools](#), especially the [Pass the Word oral history portal](#). Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Oral History Administrator Sarah Schmitt, sarahm.schmitt@ky.gov, 502-564-1792, ext. 4434, or the KHS library reference desk, KHSrefdesk@ky.gov, 502-564-1792, ext. 4460, with any questions they may have about KHS collections and access.