

John Umbreit Doctoral Research Award

2026 COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The purpose of this award is to support an outstanding doctoral student to conduct applied behavioral research in their current area of practice. The award honors John Umbreit, who has spent more than 40 years supporting the development of future faculty who are critical thinkers and dedicated to serving children with behavioral challenges.

Eligible applicants are those who are (a) enrolled in an accredited doctoral program, (b) actively engaged in applied research to support improved behavior, and (c) have an IRB-approved (or in process) research project in their specialty area.

An award of \$1,500 will be presented annually at the *Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders* conference in Tempe, Arizona. Award funds are intended to support applicant research activities and/or to present their findings at professional conferences.

To apply for the award, please submit the following:

1. A cover letter describing (a) your research experience in general, (b) your specific experience in applied behavioral research, (c) the purpose of your proposed research and your reason for pursuing this line of inquiry, and (d) your commitment to participating in the annual TECBD conference in Tempe, Arizona in November if you are the award recipient.
2. A research proposal for a specific study or a collection of studies. The proposal is limited to 15 double-spaced pages and must clearly detail the significance, method, and potential impact of the study.
3. A letter of recommendation from your advisor that specifies the potential significance of the proposed work, your ability to conduct the research, and your potential to continue this line of inquiry after graduation.
4. A CV detailing your research, teaching, and service experience.

Applications will be reviewed by the JUDRA Committee. The award recipient will be notified in October and honored this November at the annual TECBD conference in Tempe, Arizona.

Deadline for all materials: **August 1, 2026**

All application materials must be submitted as one PDF to awards@debh.net

Please address any questions to awards@debh.net