

# QTBIPOC PHD SPONSORSHIP

*More info here on this opportunity to show up for Queer, Trans, Gender Expansive, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color*



Thank you all.

Hi all,

Thank you for your expressed interest in helping fund QTBIPOC PhD students! Below you will find information for this round of fund collections. Through a tuition matching grant students have the opportunity to reduce the financial burden of furthering their education to contribute back into the mental health/psychology field. To access these available funds, they need sponsors like you to help meet the match amount.

We are working hard behind the scenes to polish and improve this process! For this term, the timeline to submit funds for the first round is mid-March. All ongoing funds collected will go towards future semesters and students.

Lindsay + Melody



## WHO:

QTBIPOC students at Pacifica Graduate Institute working toward a PhD in Depth Psychology, Specialization in Community, Liberation, Indigenous and Eco-Psychologies

## WHAT:

\$12,500 annually, or \$3,125.00 per quarter per student

### CLIE Tuition Matching Grant

Offered to newly admitted students entering the M.A./Ph.D. Depth Psychology with Specialization in Community Psychology, Liberation Psychology, Indigenous, and Ecopsychology program. Pacifica Graduate Institute will match (through tuition grant) up to \$12,500 per year, tuition support offered by an incoming student's employer, non-profit organization, sponsoring member of the community, or foundation. The number and amount of individual awards is contingent upon the number of eligible applications received. The matching funds awarded in 2020-2021 will be renewable throughout a student's course of study in conjunction with their sponsoring source. This opportunity has been created in recognition of how difficult it can be for those committed to community and ecopsychological work to fund their education, particularly in the context of the enhanced needs our communities are currently experiencing.

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**WHY:**

## Support my kins' decolonial PhD journey

Returning Land and life are at the heart of decolonization. Land back, Indigenous sovereignty, Black liberation, and liberation of all humans and other-than-humans are central to my work.

Colonization brought forth a heavily Euro-centric leaning in our understanding and approach to mental health. The mental health field is not exempt from perpetuating colonial trauma. In fact, colonialism is deeply woven into this field, and psychology can be used to cause harm through disempowerment and oppression.

The mental health field can be a bridge between trauma and healing. But first, the lens from which we understand human psychology must be carefully reexamined, with the intention to dismantle coloniality of power.

Decolonizing mental health shifts from top-down (professionals as experts) to bottom-up (clients as expert) process, requiring providers to learn and heal in order to collaborate in a connected, conscientious, anti-oppressive way with those seeking care. Decolonizing power, knowledge, and being is a process that we must commit to as ethical mental health professions.



As a bridge builder and agent of change, I am actively unlearning, challenging, and flipping the script. I'm also reimagining and rebuilding in community, amplifying the stories and needs of communities that have been neglected or harmed by psychology. I am committed to teach as I learn, distributing knowledge freely to rehumanize this field.

I hoped that Pacifica's PhD program would empower and inspire my work. Unfortunately, I'm one of the many queer people of Color that have been pushed out of academia. (That's a story for another day).

I have dear friends/family continuing in the program that I'm committed to support. I'm collaborating with Austin Teen Therapy to fundraise sponsorships for QTBIPOC PhD students studying Depth Psychology, Specialization in Community, Liberation, Indigenous and Eco-Psychologies. Students have the opportunity to access a tuition matching grant. These efforts will help offset the financial burden of furthering their education to contribute back into the mental health field.

Melody Li

LMFT (she/ all)  
Mental health justice activist





## HOW:

Two options are available:

- Sole sponsorship of a PhD student for \$3,125/a term
- Contribution to a pool of funds to sponsor PhD students for each term.

If you wish to be the sole sponsor of a student please make that known via email and select "other amount" on the DonorBox donation option.

**These funds will funnel through Austin Teen Therapy, but I will NOT be claiming a tax deduction for the total.**

To make your donation:

<https://donorbox.org/qtbi poc-phd-sponsorship-fund>

If mailing a check or looking for other donation methods, please inquire.

a heartfelt  
thank you.