Office Of Fellowships And Funding Resources

FUNDING FOR YOUR GRADUATE EDUCATION

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Funding for Graduate Studies

Costs to consider beyond tuition...

Housing
Food
Fees (application, seg, program, etc.)
Books
Transportation
Funding For Graduate Studies

How do people afford to go to Grad School?

- Research Assistant
- Project/Program Assistant
- Teaching Assistant
- Lecturer Student Assistant
- Internal and External fellowships
- Scholarships
- Traineeships
- Student loans through Financial Aid
- Work on/off campus
## Types of Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate Assistantships</th>
<th>Fellowships and Traineeships</th>
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<tr>
<td>Research Assistant</td>
<td>Internal fellowships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project/Program Assistant</td>
<td>External fellowships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching Assistant</td>
<td>Traineeships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecturer Student Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Work expectations</td>
<td>✓ Fellowships are grants that you do not have to pay back</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Graduate assistantships listed at 33.3% or higher (&gt;13 hours/week) provide multiple benefits: Remission of both resident and non-resident tuition and eligibility for health insurance</td>
<td>✓ Traineeships are positions linked with federal training grants</td>
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<td>✓ No work expectations</td>
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External Funding (NIH, NSF, FORD, FULBRIGHT...)

✓ Start early
✓ Choose your recommenders wisely
✓ Know the resources available to you to assist you with your application (e.g. The Writing Center, Grants information collection, other fellows, etc.)
✓ If you are not awarded, don’t give up
✓ Understand your funding
✓ Ask a lot of questions
Funding Package – What is it?

A funding package is an offer of financial support put together by your department and/or the university.

A funding package may include a combination of:

✓ fellowship support
✓ graduate assistantships
✓ payment of tuition and fees
✓ health insurance
✓ other financial awards

Funding packages will vary in the level of support they provide, as well as in the length of time they are guaranteed.

Your award letter should outline all the components of the package being offered.
Evaluating A Funding Package

✓ Don’t just look at stipend; that’s important, but many other things are important, too.

✓ Is tuition covered?

✓ Do you get health insurance? If so, what type of coverage does it include, and how much of the health insurance premium is covered?

✓ What is the cost of living in the area?

✓ Are some or all living expenses covered by the stipend?

✓ How many years of support is the program offering?

✓ Is the funding guaranteed?
What can you do now?

Start early to research the programs you’re interested in!

- Try to find out the average time-to-degree in your field.
- Explore what percent of students in the programs you may apply for typically get funding and what types of funding are available in those fields.
- Find out how much graduate school costs at the universities you are considering attending.
- Find out what research interests the faculty have. Locate faculty that have similar research interests as your own.
- Visit the campus. Meet with faculty members and graduate coordinators. They know a lot and can be very useful allies.