

Sources of Financial Assistance for Graduate Students

Wichita State University • 1845 Fairmount • Wichita, KS • 67260-0004 • (316) 978-3095 <http://webs.wichita.edu/gradsch>

Cost does not have to be a barrier to graduate study. Thanks to state assistance and financial planning, Wichita State works hard to keep costs low for post-baccalaureate study. In addition to the options mentioned below many employers and school districts offer tuition reimbursement for graduate study.

Department or Program Support

- Teaching, Research, and Staff Assistantships are available in most programs, although some programs do not award such positions until a student has attended WSU for one full semester. The actual dollar amount of an assistantship varies according to the length of the appointment, the number of hours worked per week, and the funding base within each program area. At Wichita State, assistantships for twenty hours of work per week, for a nine-month period, range from \$5000 to \$12,000. Assistantships and fellowships provide cash stipends and may include tuition assessment at resident rates. In addition, students awarded a graduate teaching assistantship may qualify for up to 100 percent waiver of tuition for graduate level coursework. Students admitted in good standing (not on probation) to a degree program are eligible to apply by contacting the area in which they wish to hold the appointment.

- **WSU Foundation accounts:**

The Foundation, the private fund-raising organization of the University, works to assure a University of excellence by identifying donors, cultivating and maintaining relationships, securing gifts, and managing resources to enable students and faculty to excel. Foundation Graduate Fellowships are awarded annually at the department or program level based upon availability of funds. Students interested in this type of fellowship should contact the chairperson or director of their major study area.

Support through the Office of Financial Aid:

The Office of Financial Aid helps graduate students secure financial aid in the form of loans. According to federal regulations, financial aid in the form of loans will require that graduate students be formally admitted to a graduate degree program. Non-degree students and students admitted with conditions or on probation or placed on probation following admission are not eligible for such loans. Financial aid applications and all required documents must be in the Office of Financial Aid by November 1 for spring, April 1 for summer, and March 15 for fall semesters.

Although financial aid opportunities for international students are limited, the Educaid Select loan is available to international students with a credit-worthy U.S. or permanent resident co-signer. Apply online at educaid.com.

The Sallie Mae Signature Loan is offered to graduate students attending four-year colleges or universities. Applicants must apply with a credit-worthy co-borrower who is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and provide proof of all sources of income. Apply online at www.salliemae.com.

Other Support:

- The Office of Cooperative Education and Work-Based Learning is an academic program for students who wish to combine classroom studies with academically related paid employment. Contact the Office of Cooperative Education and Work-Based Learning at (316) 978-3688.
- The Office of Career Services provides both on and off-campus employment information including part-time and summer employment opportunities. On-campus employment is not guaranteed. Available positions are advertised and updated daily. Contact the Career Services Office at (316) 978-3435.
- Cultural Ambassador Program Scholarship is awarded to international students who show a strong interest and capability in promoting their diverse culture through community programs during an academic year. The scholarships are administered by the Office of International Education and funded by the Student Government Association. Contact the Cultural Ambassador Program Coordinator at (316) 978-3232.
- International Student Hardship Fund provides one-time assistance to international students who experience financial hardship during their time on campus. This program was established by the WSU Student Government Association and is managed through the Office of Student Affairs. Contact the Hardship Fund Coordinator at (316) 978-3023.

Graduate School Support: Forms and deadline info are available at: <http://webs.wichita.edu/gradsch>

The Graduate School oversees and distributes general awards and certain fellowship activity. Inquiries about these awards should be made to the Graduate School at 978-3095 or by e-mail at gradinqu@wichita.edu.

Wichita State University faculty may nominate degree-bound students for the following awards:

- ***Ollie A. & J.O. Heskett Graduate Fellowship, typically \$2000.*** Students must be nominated by their faculty adviser, and be enrolled in at least six graduate credit hours.
- ***Dora Wallace Hodgson Outstanding Master's-level or Doctoral-level Student Awards, \$1000.*** Students must be nominated by their faculty adviser.
- ***Dora Wallace Hodgson Outstanding Master's Thesis Award, \$1000.*** Students must be nominated by their faculty adviser.
- ***Dora Wallace Hodgson Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award, \$1000.*** Students must be nominated by their faculty adviser.

Degree-bound graduate students may submit applications for the following awards:

- ***Educational Opportunity Fund*** for new and continuing part-time students based upon financial need awards up to \$700. *Application Deadlines: 1st Monday in June for fall award; 1st Monday in October for spring award.*
- ***Educational Opportunity Fund for McNair Scholars*** currently admitted in full standing to a degree-bound program in a graduate program, \$1000. McNair students are invited to apply.
- ***Dr. Laiten L. and Verna Nye Camien Fellowship*** for students in social sciences, foreign language, or education awards up to \$400.
- ***E.L. Cord Foundation Endowed Fellowship*** for students in any academic program with financial need awards up to \$250.
- ***Donald D. Sbarra Endowed Fellowship*** for students with financial need enrolled full-time in a graduate degree program with at least a 3.2 GPA awards up to \$770.
- ***Lawrence & Pauline Stetheimer Endowed Fellowship*** for students enrolled full-time in a graduate degree program with at least a 3.5 GPA awards up to \$2300 annually.
- ***Dr. Michael P. Tilford Fellowship***, awards up to \$200. Preference is given to minority students with financial need who are a U.S. citizen.
- ***Delano Maggard, Jr. Graduate Research Grants*** support students in the conduct of independent research and investigation in their field of major interest with awards up to \$300.
- ***Dora Wallace Hodgson Summer Research Awards*** provide one-time summer support for masters and doctoral candidates enrolled in at least one hour in summer of thesis, research, terminal project, or other research-related courses. Applicants for such awards must submit a description of their research project, a support letter from the research adviser, and current curriculum vitae. Awards are based upon the availability of funds.

Payment Plan:

A short-term payment plan is available to assist students in paying tuition through an installment agreement. Any student who does not have sufficient financial aid from other sources to pay tuition and fees is eligible IF they have paid all previous obligations to the University. The payment plan requires a 25% down payment on tuition and fees at the time of fee payment and the balance (approximately 75% paid throughout the semester in three equal installments (two equal installments for the summer session)). There is a \$30 nonrefundable administrative fee associated with this agreement. Eligible students may apply for the payment plan when they pay for their enrollment. Contact the Controller's Office at (316) 978-3333.