



UCF Graduate Funding

Fellowships

Fellowships and scholarships are great ways to fund your graduate education. Be proactive when searching for funding and pay close attention to application deadlines. Awards may be available in your academic college or department, or from agencies or organizations outside UCF. Several funding resources are listed at <https://funding.graduate.ucf.edu> > Other Funding Resources.

You might also consider applying for national fellowships such as the National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship or the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. Information on these and other external funding opportunities is available at <https://funding.graduate.ucf.edu> > External Funding.

Presentation Funding

The College of Graduate Studies Presentation Fellowship is a great opportunity for students who plan to present a research paper or comparable creative activity at a professional conference. This fellowship provides funding for enrolled master's, specialist, and doctoral students to share their research at a professional meeting. Application information is available at <https://funding.graduate.ucf.edu> > Presentation Fellowship.

Assistantships

Graduate assistantships provide students with academic and professional development experience. Graduate assistants receive a stipend for the duties that they perform, and UCF provides tuition remission and health insurance coverage for all qualifying assistantship appointments. Most assistantships are offered by a student's graduate program or department. More information is available at <https://funding.graduate.ucf.edu> > UCF Funding > Assistantships.

Graduate Teaching

Students hired on graduate teaching assistantships (graduate teaching associate, assistant, or grader) must complete the required university GTA Training. Registration information is available at www.funding.graduate.ucf.edu > Graduate Teaching.

Tuition Remission

Tuition remission refers to ways that the university pays tuition costs for students with qualifying graduate assistantships or university fellowships. At UCF, tuition remission covers tuition charges only, not local university fees (student activity fee, athletic fee, transportation fee, health fee, technology fee, etc.).

Nonresident University Fellows and Graduate Assistants

Nonresident university fellows and graduate assistants with appointments totaling 20 hours per week will not be charged the Non-Resident Fee or the Non-Resident Financial Aid Fee on their fee invoices. Instead, a "differential out-of-state fee" of \$0.00 is assessed during the term(s) of the qualifying fellowship or assistantship.

More information on tuition remission is available at <https://funding.graduate.ucf.edu> > UCF Funding > Tuition Remission.

Health Insurance

The College of Graduate Studies pays the premiums for health insurance coverage with UnitedHealthcare for all university fellows and graduate assistants with appointments totaling 20 hours per week. Information is available at <https://funding.graduate.ucf.edu> > UCF Funding > Health Insurance.

For questions about graduate assistantships or fellowships, email: gradassistantship@ucf.edu or gradfellowship@ucf.edu.

Financial Support Requirements

Graduate students must meet all of the following requirements each term that they receive fellowships, assistantships, or tuition remission from UCF:

- Students must be accepted as a graduate student in a degree program and enrolled full-time. Nondegree-seeking students and students who are only admitted to a graduate certificate program are ineligible for UCF financial support.
- Students must maintain good academic standing.
- In order to receive tuition remission, students must be either graduate assistants, University Fellows, or be admitted as part of a formal, written University-approved agreement. Full tuition support requires a qualifying university fellowship or a 0.5 FTE appointment (20 hours per week). Half tuition support requires a 0.25 FTE appointment (10 hours per week).
- Tuition remission will be provided only for courses that are part of the student's program of study and necessary for progress toward the student's graduate degree.
- Graduate fellowships have additional requirements, which are included in the fellowship offer to the student.

For more details, please see www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/Content/FinancialInfo.aspx.

Pathways to Success

Take advantage of the free development opportunities that UCF offers for graduate students to help prepare yourself for your future. Coordinated by the College of Graduate Studies, the Pathways to Success program includes workshops in Graduate Teaching, Research, Graduate Grantsmanship, Academic Integrity, Professional Development, and Personal Development. For the workshops schedule and registration, see www.students.graduate.ucf.edu/pathways.



What is a Fellowship?

A fellowship is an acknowledgement of past academic achievements and in anticipation of future successes. They almost always require no additional work and can be awarded by UCF, department, or external funding agencies. Fellowships often include a stipend and tuition.

What is an Assistantship?

Graduate assistantships are opportunities for students to engage in the research, teaching, and administrative missions of the university. Students appointed on qualifying, 20 hours per week graduate assistantship positions receive a stipend (biweekly paycheck), tuition remission and health insurance coverage.

Funding Lingo

- **Assistantship Stipend** – the total amount to be paid for duties performed on a graduate assistantship. The stipend is paid via a biweekly payment through UCF Human Resources.
- **Graduate Degree Program** – a course of study leading to a master's, specialist, or doctoral degree.
- **Nondegree Students** – students who have completed at least a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university in the United States and are admitted as nondegree rather than to a graduate degree program; also referred to as postbaccalaureate students.
- **Graduate Certificate** – Graduate Certificate programs are different from graduate degree programs and have different rules and requirements. Graduate Certificate programs are meant to provide a focused curriculum that would supplement an existing graduate degree program and provide current state-of-the-art content in that topical area.
- **Full-time Enrollment** – A full-time degree-seeking graduate student must take at least 9 credit hours in the fall and spring semesters. A half-time load is defined as enrolled in at least 4.5 credit hours in fall and spring terms. During the summer term, full-time is 6 credit hours and half-time is 3 credit hours.
- **External vs. Internal Funding** – External funding comes from a funding agency outside of UCF while internal funding comes from UCF, whether it be from the university, college or department.