Graduate Student Resources & Funding Your Studies

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Funding Your Studies

• A number of resources are available to UCLA Luskin students to fund their studies, including fellowships that can provide multiple years of funding to students who know to apply for them. The basis for eligibility can vary: they can be broad in availability and awarded based on academic merit, or selective and available only to students meeting precise conditions. Many may only be available to students in their first or second year. It is imperative that students inform themselves and begin the application process early.

• The following resources are available for all students as they begin their search:

  Graduate & Postdoctoral Educational Support (GRAPES) Database
  Search for awards from among 625 scholarships, grants, fellowships, and postdoctoral awards. Free-to-search for applicants to any graduate program, to graduate students working on a master’s thesis or doctoral dissertation, and to postdoc scholars.

  Extramural Fellowship Directories
  To be considered for an extramural fellowship, you usually apply directly to a foundation, organization or other granting agency. Be sure to check the application instructions on the agency’s website. The Graduate Division’s Fellowships & Financial Services Office maintains a database of extramural funding opportunities, a graduate fellowships LIST and a small library of fellowship directories.

• Departmental funding for 2nd/ last year of MPP program
  The Department of Public Policy itself awards several fellowships based on merit and policy focus. Like many others fellowships, some have specific qualifications, while others are awarded based on overall academic performance, professional experience, and future potential in public policy.
Fellowships for International Students

- External fellowship opportunities for international students
- Students will need to apply with organization directly

Funding Opportunities Available to International Students

Grants, Scholarships and Fellowships

- Africa-American Institute
  http://www.aasou.org/programs/african-higher-education-and-training/centre/international-fellowships-program.cfm

- American Association of Petroleum Geologists (Grants-In-Aid) – Multiple Opportunities
  http://foundation.aapg.org/gia/index.cfm

- American Association of University Women
  http://www.aauw.org/learn/fellowships/grants/

- American-Scandinavian Foundation
  http://www.amscan.org/

- CONACyT – The Mexican Council on Science and Technology
  http://www.conacyt.gob.mx/en/Pages/scholarships.aspx

- East-West Center
  www.eastwestcenter.org/scholarships-fellowships

- ETS Fellowship and Internship Programs
  http://www.ets.org/research/fellowships

- Ford International Fellowship
  http://www.fordify.net/

- Georges Leczycki Charitable and Educational Trust
  http://www.leczy.org/bourses.html

- Rotary International (Many different types of fellowships; some may require application through home country)
  http://www.rotary.org/EN/SERVICEANDFELLOWSHIP/Pages/Reference.aspx

- Smithsonian Institution
  http://www.si.edu/fof/fellowship.htm

- Social Science Research Council – International Dissertation Field Research Fellowships
  www.ssrc.org/programs/idrf

- UC MEXUS (University of California, Riverside – open to students at all UC campuses)
  http://www.ucmexus.ucr.edu/

- Wildlife Conservation Society Research Fellowship Program

Governmental and Non-Profit Organizations

- British Council-USA (Funding for Non-US Citizens to Study in the UK)
  http://www.britishcouncil.org/learning-funding-vise-studies.htm

- Fulbright Program for Foreign Students/Institute of International Education
  http://foreign.fulbrightonline.org/
  http://www.fulbrightusa.org/
Financial Aid – need based

- [http://www.financialaid.ucla.edu/Graduate/Overview](http://www.financialaid.ucla.edu/Graduate/Overview)
- Loans Unsubsidized / Direct Plus Loans
- Work-study/Graduate Work Study
- PDST FA (Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition) Grant - Students who qualified notified

For the MPP program, the PDST is currently $9,768.00 (Resident), $10,419.00 (Non-resident) as indicated on the Registrar’s fee schedule. When creating this professional degree supplemental tuition, the UC Regents also prescribed its use, designating one-third of the PDST to be used for need-based financial aid grants.

The Financial Aid award is determined by the amount of unmet need as assessed by the FAFSA and the UCLA Financial Aid office.

- **Federal Direct PLUS Loans**

  The Direct PLUS Loan is a loan option for Graduate/Professional students to help pay for their educational costs. Students can borrow up to the cost of attendance minus any other financial aid that the student is receiving. Interest begins accruing upon first disbursements. Students are not required to start making payments on this loan until sixty (60) days after the loan is fully disbursed. Students may also defer payment if the student is enrolled at least half-time, or during the six (6) month period after graduation, or after the student drops below half-time enrollment.

- **Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans**

  Direct Unsubsidized Loans are federally guaranteed loans that all students, regardless or need, are eligible to receive. Interest begins accruing after the first initial disbursement. Students are not required to start making payments on this loan until six (6) months after they graduate or drop below half time.
UCLA Financial Aid and Scholarships

- Counselor
- Message

Financial Aid and Scholarships Staff Information

The Financial Aid and Scholarships staff is available at the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office located in Murphy Hall A129J. Counselors may also be reached by phone at:

(310) 206-0400

Alternatively through our Messaging Center

With MyUCLA Login
Without MyUCLA Login

- Counseling
- Service Counter
- Scholarships

https://www.financialaid.ucla.edu/Contact-Us/Our-Staff
Residency & Nonresident Supplemental Tuition (NRST)

• California students do not pay Nonresident Supplemental Tuition (NRST); only fees

• Nonresident students (out-of-state and international students) pay fees and non-resident tuition (NRST). These are flat fees and not based on number or units, although a minimum of 12 units is required to maintain full-time graduate student status.

• https://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Fees-Residence/Residence-Requirements/Classification-as-a-Resident

CLASSIFICATION AS A RESIDENT

Continuing nonresident students who feel they meet UC requirements may petition to be classified as a resident for tuition purposes.

Continuing nonresident UCLA students seeking resident status, who feel they have met all UC residence requirements, may petition for a change of status for tuition purposes by filing a Petition for Residence Classification. A student who is in California solely for educational purposes is not eligible for California residence for tuition purposes.
Working at UCLA

• **UCLA Peer Mentorship for Graduate Extramural Fellowships**- The Peer Mentorship for Graduate Extramural Fellowships is an opportunity for graduate students to develop and enhance their fluency and familiarity with extramural graduate fellowships and their value. The graduate mentors, along with experts from UCLA’s Graduate Division and Graduate Writing Center, help other students strengthen their applications and sharpen their grantsmanship. While serving as a valuable resource to the campus community, peer advisors also benefit by developing their mentoring and communication skills.

• **Teaching Assistantships (TAs / TA'ships)**- A Teaching Assistantship (TA) is a meaningful way for graduate students to obtain teaching experience. Teaching assistants are selected on the basis of scholarship and promise as teachers. Duties may include teaching, holding office hours, preparing course materials and grading under the tutelage and supervision of regular faculty members who are responsible for curriculum and instruction in the University.

• **Research Assistants (RAs)**- Research assistants are appointed to the title Graduate Student Researcher (GSR) and are selected on the basis of scholastic achievement and promise as creative scholars. GSRs assist faculty with scholarly research under the direction and supervision of a faculty member.

• **Readers & Special Readers**- Readers/Special Readers assist faculty members with the reading and grading of students' papers and exams, under the guidance and direction of faculty members. Readers must have taken and received at least a B in the course for which they are hired while Special Readers must have taken and received at least a B+ in the course for which they are reading. Readers are appointed for undergraduate numbered courses (1-199) while Special Readers are hired for upper division undergraduate or graduate level courses (100 and above).

• **Tutors**- The primary duty of a Tutor is individual or small group review instruction related to, but not required in, specific courses. The duty is performed under the supervision of faculty “instructors of record” or designated staff members who are vested with the sole and final responsibility for course content, work assignments, performance evaluations and grading in the assigned course and its related tutoring.

• [https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/working-at-ucla/](https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/working-at-ucla/)
Academic Apprentice

General requirements (vary by dept. or course)

• Be enrolled in a minimum of 12.0 units
• Have a minimum 3.0 GPA
• Have no incomplete grades
• Expertise/knowledge

Those first language is not English and who do not hold a bachelor’s degree from an institution in the U.S., must pass a campus administered Test of Oral Proficiency (TOP) in order to be eligible for a teaching assistantship. For additional information, as well as on-line exam registration, go to https://www.teaching.ucla.edu/top or e-mail top@oid.ucla.edu

For information about Academic Apprentice Personnel positions, salary scales, etc. please consult the Academic Apprentice Personnel Manual and salary links on the Graduate Division web site: https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/working-at-ucla/academic-apprentice-personnel-manual/
TA Marketplace (Teaching Assistantship Positions Group)

• **TA Marketplace**- Graduate students interested in searching for Teaching Assistantship (TA) vacancies outside of their home academic department are encouraged to subscribe to the group using the button below. UCLA Graduate Division has created this web group to aid graduate students in finding TA opportunities. Departments that need to fill TA vacancies will post job announcements along with required qualifications and application instructions to the group.

• For more information, visit [https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/working-at-ucla/teaching-assistantship-positions/](https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/working-at-ucla/teaching-assistantship-positions/)

• Visit the website and join the mailing list

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**Eligibility**

You must be a registered and enrolled UCLA graduate student. Newly admitted students need to wait until their admit term to sign-up.

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Subscribe to TA Positions Group

Department staff, please visit our Go.Grad website for departmental access to post announcements.
How to find Appointments?

• Check with MPP Department
• Speak with different departments
• Ask faculty/staff about research projects
• Talk to other graduates
• Email announcements
• Proactively seek opportunities
• Connect with faculty
• UCLA TA Marketplace (Teaching assistantship positions group)
• [link](https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/working-at-ucla/teaching-assistantship-positions/)

Public Policy Department

• TA (25%, 50%), Reader, GSR position
• Department positions, announcement made Spring quarter
• Positions: Core Courses, availability can change depending on course offering and appointment time
Department Fellowship:
Merit based award (2\textsuperscript{nd}/last year funding)

- These fellowships are for continuing students in recognition of meritorious academic achievement while in the MPP program, and thus are allocated on the basis of performance in course work during the first year of the program.
- Students with pending “Incomplete” grades are not eligible.
- Domestic and International student eligible to apply.
- Generally a minimum 3.5 GPA is required the merit-based fellowships. In the past awards have ranged from $1,000 to $10,000.
- Department fellowship application announcement made Spring quarter.
- Awards will announced and awarded late summer when all grades have been posted and when the department finalized the fellowship budget.
- Check your email Spring quarter for more information.
Department Fellowship: Need based award

• The Financial Aid need based award is determined by the amount of unmet need as assessed by the FAFSA and the UCLA Financial Aid office.

• International students can apply for financial need based aid. Since international students are not eligible to complete the FAFSA, students can submit a qualifying statement (@500 words or less) describing their financial situation and need for financial aid. Note, students who are fully funded by their work or government agency do not qualify for this aid. This aid is only for the academic year and not summer funding.

• Submit a brief statement on online application form (@500 words or less) qualifying your “unmet” financial need, particularly if there are personal circumstances that are not easily assessed by the FAFSA.
Additional Fellowships

• MPP Alumni Leadership and Service Fellowship
  • Qualifications: Demonstrated leadership and service to MPP students in the Department of Public Policy, within the Luskin School, at UCLA, and/or in the community.

• Transportation Fellowship – Announced Spring quarter

• Garsombke Fellowship- Spring Quarter (Unpaid internships)
Luskin Leaders & Summer Awards

1. Environmental justice policy issues &
2. social change. $5,000

Summer stipend for LUSKIN masters’ students serving non-partisan internship in government with emphasis on CA. $3,000- $5,000

$5,000 award for unpaid internship

Leadership Awards Programs

At the convergence of the fields of social work, urban planning, and policymaking, the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs cultivates leaders and change agents who advance solutions to society’s most pressing problems. UCLA Luskin graduate students are examining issues affecting our nation and the needs of our society through this unique and beneficial interdisciplinary lens.

Hands-on, yearlong fellowships and summer internships are an integral part of the training UCLA Luskin graduate students receive as they become leaders throughout Los Angeles, across the nation, and around the globe. Urban Planning, Social Welfare, and Public Policy graduate students are placed within community foundations, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies where they receive invaluable practical experience with advanced research, policy, and advocacy while simultaneously providing high-level work aligned with the placement organizations’ missions.

Summer Awards

Placement opportunities for summer internships have been announced and are listed below. Application deadline is Friday, May 8, 2020 by 5pm. Placement opportunities will be announced in early 2020. Students may apply to one or two opportunities (maximum).

- Michael S. Dukakis Internship Program
- Liberty Hill Foundation
- Public Service Internship Awards
- Application Process for Summer Awards - DEADLINE: Friday, May 8, 2020 by 5pm

https://luskin.ucla.edu/inside-luskin/leadership-development-program/#toggle-id-4
Yearlong Fellowships

UCLA Luskin offers a limited number of yearlong fellowships with nonprofit organizations, government and public service agencies. Placement opportunities include public health, child welfare, education policy, social justice, environmental policy, city/county government, and other public service organizations. Host organizations will be announced in January. Deadline is Friday, February 15 by 5pm.

David Bohnett Fellowship Program

Courtney Taylor, Public Policy, received the David Bohnett Fellowship to work in the Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of Budget and Innovation

Alejandro Gonzalez, Urban and Regional Planning, received the David Bohnett Fellowship to work with the Los Angeles Mayor’s Chief Design Officer

Karishma Shamdesani, Public Policy, received the David Bohnett Fellowship to work in the Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of Transportation

Merhawi Tesfai, Social Welfare, is a UCLA Luskin Leadership Fellow for the Venice Family Clinic

Kimberly Fuentes, Social Welfare, is a UCLA Luskin Leadership Fellow for the Los Angeles County Office of Child Protection
The Student Services Fee covers services that benefit the student and that are complementary to, but not part of, instructional programs. The fee supports operating and capital expenses for services related to the physical and psychological health and well-being of students, social and cultural activities and programs, services related to campus life and campus community, and educational and career support services. Income generated from this fee paid by UCLA students funds UCLA programs. The amount of the Student Services Fee is set by the Regents and is the same for all campuses in the UC system.

https://sa.ucla.edu/RO/Fees/Public/public-fees
Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) @UCLA

- Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) is charged to students in the DDS, DEnv, DrPH, JD, MArch I, MD, MFA (Art), MFA (Film and Television, Theater), MPH (Public Health), MPP, MSN, MSW, and MURP programs. The PDST amount can be different for each professional school program and on each campus. Regents’ policy specifies that an amount equal to at least one-third of any new fee increase must be used for financial aid. The remainder is retained by the professional schools to maintain academic quality.

- [https://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Fees-Residence/Fee-Descriptions](https://www.registrar.ucla.edu/Fees-Residence/Fee-Descriptions)
Professional Degree Supplement Tuition (PDST)

- **Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST)** is assessed on students in designated graduate professional degree program. Regents’ policy mandates that an amount equal to at least one-third of any new fee increase be used for financial aid. The remainder is retained by the professional school to maintain academic quality. The Department of Public Policy collect Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST). Students who have documented financial need (determined by FAFSA) are eligible to receive a portion of these funds.

- PDST is additional mandatory tuition assessed to students enrolled in designated graduate professional degree programs including the Master of Public Policy. PDST will increase by 5 percent each year from 2019-2022.

- PDST Summary:
  - One of the fees is used towards student financial aid (need based awards)
  - One third to support the Luskin School (Career Services, commencement, student programming, etc.)
  - One third to support the Department of Public Policy (staffing, student support, recruitment, student emergency funding, Japan Trip, etc.)

*Please feel free to address any comments on the PDST input form. Due 10/9/20

Questions???
Graduate Student Resources

- **Center for Accessible Education (CAE)**
  - [https://www.cae.ucla.edu/apply-for-accommodations](https://www.cae.ucla.edu/apply-for-accommodations)
  - Facilitates academic accommodations for regularly enrolled, matriculating students with acute and chronic physical and mental health related disabilities.

- **Graduate Writing Center (GWC)**
  - [https://gwc.gsrc.ucla.edu](https://gwc.gsrc.ucla.edu)
  - Offers free individual appointments with experienced writing consultants to work on writing issues ranging from style and argumentation to grammar and syntax.

- **Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT)**
  - [https://www.studentincrisis.ucla.edu/Economic-Crisis-Response](https://www.studentincrisis.ucla.edu/Economic-Crisis-Response)
  - Provides support to students who are experiencing a financial crisis that impacts their academic success at UCLA.

- **Graduate Division Fellowships and Financial Services (FFS)**
  - [https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/financial-aid](https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/financial-aid)
  - Information about graduate student funding including institutional based fellowships & extramural award processing.

- **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**
  - [https://www.counseling.ucla.edu](https://www.counseling.ucla.edu)
  - Multi-disciplinary student mental health center that offers short-term individual therapy, group therapy, psychiatric treatment & evaluation, crisis consultation, psychoeducational programs & workshops.
  - Crisis counseling is also available 24 hours/day at (310) 825-0768.

- **Dashew Center for International Students and Scholars (DCISS)**
  - [https://www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu](https://www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu)

- **Graduate Student Resource Center (GSRC)**
  - [https://www.gsrc.ucla.edu](https://www.gsrc.ucla.edu)

- **Student Legal Services (SLS)**
  - [https://www.studentlegal.ucla.edu](https://www.studentlegal.ucla.edu)

**See provided Campus Resource guide for more information**