Funding and Financial Support

Master of Science Program

While we do not guarantee funding for our MS students, we do consider our MS students if we have available teaching assistantships. Students are notified of assignments in advance of the quarter start, but not at the time of admission. Research assistantships are assigned by faculty and typically to their doctoral advisees first. Students apply for funding by completing the Assistantship and Fellowship Form in their admissions application online. Since a position is not guaranteed, we recommend you budget accordingly.

Doctoral Program

We commit to financial support for five years after admission to the doctoral program. Departmental funding is contingent on satisfactory progress. Support for an additional period may be granted upon approval of a petition, endorsed by the student’s thesis supervisor, to the Graduate Program Coordinator. When you fill out your admissions application, you will fill out the Assistantship and Fellowship Form so that we determine eligibility for different forms of support.

Some students enter our department with external fellowships. Most students continue to apply for fellowships during their program. We make it a priority to inform students of fellowship opportunities via email or word of mouth. We also encourage students to find opportunities with their advisor or through funding sources such as the National Science Foundation or the Department of Energy. The graduate school maintains a list of possible fellowships along with their deadlines. Many fellowships have standard deadlines in either November or January/March.

Additional funding resources

Graduate Funding Information Services
UW Graduate School Fellowships
Office of Financial Aid
Veteran Education Benefits
UW Hires - Information about finding employment at the university