Funding for International Students
The George Washington University offers a variety of funding options for international students pursuing graduate study, including fellowships, scholarships, and teaching, research, and other assistantships. GW also assists students in finding cooperative education opportunities, part-time employment, and other external funding sources.

This brochure provides an overview of the types of funding available to help you identify what might be appropriate for you. Full information on costs and funding options is available at:

www.gwu.edu/apply/costsfinancialplanning/graduate

Most graduate students at U.S. universities fund their education through a variety of sources. As GW merit-based financial assistance is highly competitive, students often seek funding from non-profit organizations, agencies, foundations, their home countries, or companies for which they work.
To apply for GW assistantships and fellowships, you should review your academic program’s Web site for details about the type of support available. Application for graduate teaching and research assistantships simply requires answering “yes” to the question about fellowships and assistantships on the online graduate application for admission. A separate application form may be required for other types of assistantships and employment.

The deadline for fellowships and assistantships is January 15 for the fall semester and September 1 for the spring semester. However, most assistantships are awarded for the year beginning in the fall semester. All admission materials are due by this deadline, even if it is earlier than the stated deadline for admission to your program of interest. Decisions on assistantships and fellowships are made by faculty, chairpersons, or directors within the academic program.
Graduate assistants are generally responsible for teaching assistance, research in their fields of study, or for administrative duties. These awards, available in many GW departments, generally include salaries, stipends and tuition awards and are merit-based. Contact your prospective academic department to learn if such opportunities are available and what you should do to be considered for these positions.

**Graduate Teaching Assistantships (GTAs)**
Graduate teaching assistantships are highly competitive, but provide an excellent opportunity to both fund your graduate education and prepare you for a possible future in academia. Prior teaching experience is not required, but is considered an asset. To be considered for a GTA appointment, applicants whose native language is not English or who are not citizens of countries where English is the official language must demonstrate sufficient English language skills through standardized tests prior to admission (TOEFL or academic IELTS). In addition, an Oral English Proficiency Screening is required upon arrival at GW.

**Graduate Research Assistantships (GRAs)**
Graduate research assistantships provide an opportunity to assist with a faculty member’s research and are funded by the university.

**Graduate Administrative Assistantships (GAAs)**
A number of GW offices hire part-time graduate administrative assistants for up to 20 hours per week to help with the daily functioning of the office or special projects. Most offices do not hire students as GAAs until after they have arrived on campus.

**Research Assistant Positions**
Faculty members serving as principal investigators on sponsored research grants may hire GW students as research assistants.

**Residence Assistantships**
GW Housing Program hires graduate students to help to develop programs and co-curricular activities and to assist with the administrative tasks of managing a residence hall. Compensation includes either a fixed or hourly wage and may include a furnished room. Information about available positions is provided online at living.gwu.edu (click on Employment and Volunteer Opportunities).
Fellowships and scholarships are merit-based awards to fund master’s and doctoral study. They offer stipends and/or tuition awards and have various deadlines. Listed below are a few examples of these types of awards. Information on the full ranges of available fellowships and assistantships, including academic department-based support, is provided on The Office of Graduate Student Assistantships and Fellowships Web site at

www.gwu.edu/~fellows

**GW-funded fellowships**

Global Leaders

Career Development Fellowship

Daewoo Chinese Scholarship

Daewoo Vietnamese Scholarship

GW Hyundai Scholarship

**Non GW-funded fellowships**

American-Mideast Educational and Training Services, Inc. (AMIDEAST)

American Association of University Women International Fellowships

CONACYT Fellowships for Foreign Study

Ford Foundation International Fellowship

Fulbright Grants for Non-US Students

Institute for Humane Studies

Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund and World Bank Volunteer Services (MMMF) Grants for Women from Developing Countries

Organization of American States (OAS) Regular Training Program Fellowships (PRA)

PEO International Peace Scholarship

Rotary Ambassadorial Fellowships

Society of Women Engineers Graduate Scholarships
Cooperative education allows you to integrate salaried, study-related work experiences into your academic program. These competitive positions are available in selected public agencies and private corporations, and are not based on financial need. Although opportunities in the public sector are limited to U.S. students, international students may participate in the program within the private sector. Contact your academic department or the GW Career Center for more information on cooperative education opportunities (gwcarctr@gwu.edu or gwired.gwu.edu/career/).

**Part-Time Employment**

The GW Career Center posts part-time, summer, and internship positions for which graduate students may apply, and your academic department may also be aware of other job openings. However, some restrictions apply to international students seeking either on- or off-campus employment. Although students with F-1 or J-1 visa status are invited to take advantage of the opportunity to supplement their classroom experiences and personal funds through employment, students must obtain proper employment authorization from GW’s International Services Office BEFORE beginning work.

**Employer/Government Assistance**

Many larger corporations, as well as some governments, pay part or all tuition costs for employees pursuing graduate study. In most cases, your program of study must be related to your career field and may require a commitment to continue working for the organization for a specific time period following graduation. Check with your employer and your government to determine if such support is available.
The following Web sites provide information on financial assistance for international students:

Education USA  
www.educationusa.state.gov

Edupass  
www.edupass.org/finaid

International Education Financial Aid  
www.iefa.org

Institute for International Education  
www.fundingusstudy.org

Latin American Network Info Center (LANIC)  
lanic.utexas.edu/la/region/scholarships/
For graduate program information, admissions requirements, and the online application for admission, please visit www.gwu.edu/gradapply

Office of Graduate Student Enrollment Management
202.994.5984 • gradinfo@gwu.edu