FACULTY GUIDE FOR GRADUATE STUDENT FUNDING

Florida Atlantic University offers numerous funding opportunities for graduate students, including graduate assistantships, research project assistantships, fellowships, and financial aid. Non-degree graduate students are not eligible for graduate assistantships, fellowships, or financial aid.

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Thesis and Dissertation Scholarship

This scholarship is intended to assist graduate students with timely graduation. Master’s or doctoral students who are close to graduating, but need additional funds to finalize one’s dissertation could apply for this scholarship. Scholarships are valued up to $500 and applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

Graduate students could utilize this scholarship to cover expenses such as thesis and dissertation editing, final manuscript materials, printing, and other miscellaneous or unexpected research costs.

Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) Competition Scholarships

During the Fall of 2016, FAU's Graduate College hosted the University's inaugural Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) Competition. The competition is open to any active FAU graduate student in good academic standing with the University. 3MT provides all participants with a unique and invaluable professional development experience. Championship winners are awarded research scholarships and awards up to $2,500, with the possibility to win up to $5,500 to support one's graduate research.

Pathways Scholarship

This scholarship will award up to $2,000 to eligible FAU students enrolled in combined or advanced standing graduate degree programs. The scholarship is distributed in two increments of $1,000 during the first and last semester of the graduate program. Students must apply during the junior year of undergraduate study.

Eligibility Criteria

- Be officially accepted to a combined program
- Be enrolled in first graduate semester
- Maintain continuous enrollment throughout the graduate program
- Have a Plan of Study on file with Graduate College
- Complete the undergraduate program within four years
- Complete the graduate program within two years (two years begins after completion of bachelor’s degree)
- Complete a minimum of three graduate credits during the senior year

Presidential Fellowship

This fellowship is designed to assist FAU graduate programs with the recruitment of superior doctoral and MFA students by adding fellowship funds to an assistantship. In addition to the
graduate research or teaching assistantship, the recipients of this fellowship will receive $5,000 each year for two years. The fellowship is automatically renewable for the second year given excellent progress toward the degree by the student. Only newly admitted full-time doctoral and MFA students are eligible to receive the fellowship. To qualify, the student must be given an assistantship stipend at least equal to the typical level of funding that all first-year doctoral and MFA students receive in the department and it must be renewable for up to two years.

Eligibility Criteria

- Excellent academic record as determined by faculty at the time of admission
- Excellent letters of recommendation as determined by faculty at the time of admission
- Newly admitted full-time graduate student with initial enrollment in either the Summer 2018 term, Fall 2018 term, or Spring 2019 term
- Student must be offered a graduate research or teaching assistantship at the same level of funding as all entering doctoral students in their college, and it must cover the required fall and spring term continuous enrollment period (enrollment and assistantship funding during the summer term are not required)

Note: if a fellowship recipient has a valid FAFSA in place with an EFC (Expected Family Contribution) below $10,000, this award could go up to $10,000 a year and renewable for a third and fourth year.

Provost Fellowship

This fellowship is designed to assist programs with the recruitment of outstanding masters or doctoral students by adding fellowship funds to an assistantship. In addition to a graduate research or teaching assistantship, a recipient of this fellowship will receive $2,500 for one academic year. Only newly admitted full-time masters and doctoral students are eligible to receive the fellowship. To qualify, the student must be given an assistantship stipend at least equal to the typical level of funding that all first-year masters or doctoral students receive in the department.

Eligibility Criteria

- Excellent academic record as determined by faculty at the time of admission
- Excellent letters of recommendation as determined by faculty at the time of admission
- Newly admitted full-time graduate student with initial enrollment in either the Summer 2018 term, Fall 2018 term, or Spring 2019 term
- Student must be offered a graduate research or teaching assistantship at the same level of funding as all entering masters or doctoral students in their college, and it must cover the required Fall and Spring term continuous enrollment period (enrollment and assistantship funding during the Summer term are not required).

Note: if a fellowship recipient has a valid FAFSA in place with an EFC (Expected Family Contribution) below $10,000, this award could go up to $5,000 a year and renewable for a second year.
Other fellowships available for graduate students:

- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
- Delores A. Auzenne Fellowship
- Graduate Diversity Fellowship
- Graduate Student Research Scholarship Fund
- Newell Doctoral Fellowship
- Alice Griffin AAUW Graduate Fellowship
- Dissertation Year Awards
- Graduate Fellowship for Academic Excellence
- McKnight Doctoral Fellowship

For more information visit the Graduate College website: [fau.edu/graduate/resources/index.php](http://fau.edu/graduate/resources/index.php).

**FLORIDA BRIGHT FUTURES SCHOLARS**

Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) and Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) earning a baccalaureate degree in seven semesters or fewer (or the equivalent in credit hours) may receive funding for one term of graduate study, not to exceed 15 semester hours, paid at the undergraduate rate.

For more information, contact the Office of Student Financial Aid at 561-297-3530.

**ASSISTANTSHIPS**

Graduate Assistantships are available in a variety of departments and offices. Interested graduate students should be directed to their department and university administrative offices to inquire about assistantships. Please note that graduate students must be admitted to the University before applying for assistantships. The three types of Assistantships available to graduate students are:

- Graduate Assistant
- Graduate Research Assistant
- Graduate Teaching Assistant

For more information about Assistantships, visit the Graduate College website: [fau.edu/graduate/tuition-benefits/index.php](http://fau.edu/graduate/tuition-benefits/index.php).

**FINANCIAL AID**

Encourage students to apply for financial aid early at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov) with our school code (001481) – FAU’s priority deadline is January 1. The FAFSA is the only application needed to apply for federal and institutional financial aid, including the need-based FAU Graduate Grant – these grant funds are limited and awarded on a first come, first served basis.

For more information about financial aid contact Suzanne Paton at [patons@fau.edu](mailto:patons@fau.edu) or call 561-297-2751.

**COMING FALL 2018**

Beginning in the fall of 2018, any freshmen students admitted to FAU as degree seeking that are awarded one of the admissions merit scholarships (Elite Owl, Presidential, MLK, National Merit, SECME, Spirit of FAU or Talon) and who finish their undergraduate degree in less than 4 years, will be eligible to use the remaining scholarship funds for a graduate degree at FAU, if they are admitted and enroll in the program within two semesters of completing their bachelor’s.