

Financial Aid Information for Graduate Students

- As a graduate student, traditional sources of financial aid are federal student loans, scholarships, and graduate assistantships.
 - To receive loans, you must complete the FAFSA annually (www.FAFSA.gov)
 - For the loan to disburse:
 - You must accept the award within your GovState Financial Aid portal accessed through <https://mygsu.govst.edu/>
 - You must complete **Graduate Loan Entrance Counseling** and a **Graduate Master Promissory Note** at www.StudentAid.gov
 - Graduate assistantships can cover 6-9 credit hours of tuition/fees and provide a monthly stipend.
 - Graduate assistantships can be found on **Jobs for Jaguars** at: https://www.govst.edu/Campus_Life/Career_Services/Online_Job_Posting_System/
 - Graduate students are eligible to borrow up to \$20,500 annually, which is traditionally split over Fall and Spring.
 - You must be enrolled at least half-time (6 hours fall/spring, 3 hours summer) in eligible coursework to be eligible to borrow.
 - You can also reduce the loan amount to what you need; you do not have to take out the full loan amount.
 - The interest rate for Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans is a fixed rate. Rates vary from year to year. Exact interest rates can be found online through www.studentaid.gov.
 - Effective July 1, 2026, all Federal Direct Loans will be prorated based on enrollment. This form will be updated as more information becomes available.
 - If a graduate student needs money in excess of their unsubsidized loan, or for summer, they can apply for a Federal Direct PLUS Loan*. This is still a federal student loan but carries a higher interest rate.
 - The interest rate for Direct PLUS Loans is a fixed rate. Rates vary from year to year. Exact interest rates can be found online through www.studentaid.gov.
 - This is a credit-based loan, and you can fill out the application at www.StudentAid.gov
 - If denied, you can either appeal the decision or use an endorser.
 - Once the StudentAid.gov application is complete, you must fill out the GovState Plus Loan Application Form at: <https://www.govst.edu/forms-publications/>
 - Email the completed form to faid@govst.edu
 - Effective July 1, 2026, all Federal Direct Loans will be prorated based on enrollment. This form will be updated as more information becomes available.
- *The Graduate PLUS loan program is eliminated effective July 1, 2026, for new borrowers. Legacy Provision: If a borrower has a Graduate PLUS loan made before July 1, 2026, while enrolled in a credentialed program, the borrower can continue to borrow from the program for 3 academic years or the remainder of their expected time to credential, whichever is less.
- Scholarships are available at GovState through our Scholarship Universe platform, which provides access to institutional **and** external scholarships. The platform uses your MyGSU credentials and can be found at: www.Govst.ScholarshipUniverse.com.
 - You will receive emails to your student email when new scholarships are posted.
 - The platform matches you to scholarships based on the questions that you answer. The more questions you answer = the more scholarship matches!