

Fifth Year Funding with Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF)

For full-time graduate students who are conducting research or creative projects and who are pursuing the terminal graduate degree in their departments. All qualifying examinations must be successfully passed prior to the beginning of the academic year of the award; non-renewable.

The School of Business PhD Program provides funding for students in their first four years of the program. Funding in the fifth year is conditional upon students' performance and progress. The PhD Office will request that students submit an electronic copy of their curriculum vitae. The PhD Office will also solicit feedback from students' supervisory committee chairs to determine if the students have met the criteria listed below. This document outlines the funding options for those who qualify for the GRF and funding from the PhD Office and the criteria to qualify for those options.

Criteria:

1. The first criterion is approval of the Dissertation Topic Proposal. The form must be signed and submitted to the PhD Office by the end of spring semester of the 4th year.
2. A second criterion is research achievement. The question considered here is whether the student has a record of research excellence. Indicators of research excellence include, but are not limited to, publication in top-tier journals, revise and resubmits at top-tier journals, and/or leadership on co-authored papers that are published or advancing toward publication in top-tier journals. Conference papers, secondary journals, or even publications at top-tier journals where the student's contribution is relatively minor may not be sufficient to qualify one for fifth-year funding. The Director of Graduate Studies will consult with the student's supervisor committee to determine whether a student is making sufficient progress, has a record of research excellence, and should therefore be given fifth year funding. The research achievement criterion is intended to set a high standard of research achievement in order to qualify for the additional funding.

Funding options for students who qualify for the GRF:

1. **Student does NOT meet either criteria one or two**
 - a. No funding
2. **Student meets one of the two criteria**
 - a. Stipend:
 - i. Students receive a stipend of \$17,000 for the academic year (August 16-May 15) from the GRF. An additional stipend is available from the PhD Office.

- ii. If students meet the criteria for a HALF stipend (\$8,500) from the PhD Office, they will also be required to work 10 hours or .25 FTE as a Graduate Research Assistant/Teaching Assistant.
 - iii. Students' stipends from the PhD Office will be paid the same way they have been paid in the past.
 - iv. Students who receive the GRF are only eligible to work .25 FTE.
- b. Tuition:
 - i. The student receives a tuition benefit from the Graduate Tuition Benefit Program through the GRF, provided all other tuition benefit program criteria are met (including term limits).
 - ii. Students will need to register for 9 credit hours per semester unless they have met the tuition benefit program (TBP) term limits. If they have met the TBP term limits, students will only need to register for 3 credit hours per semester.
 - iii. Both resident and nonresident students are assessed resident tuition and fees if they are only registered for thesis research.
 - iv. The PhD Office will pay HALF mandatory tuition/fees for fall and spring semesters if not covered by the GRF.
- c. Health Insurance:
 - i. The PhD Office will pay 20% of premium costs since 80% of the premium costs are covered by the GRF.
- d. Research Money:
 - i. The PhD Office will provide \$500 in research money.

3. Student meets both criteria one and two

- a. Stipend:
 - i. Students receive a stipend of \$17,000 for the academic year (August 16-May 15) from the GRF. An additional stipend is available from the PhD Office.
 - ii. If students meet the criteria for a FULL stipend (\$17,000) from the PhD Office, they will only be required to work 10 hours or .25 FTE as a Graduate Research Assistant/Teaching Assistant.
 - iii. Students' stipends from the PhD Office will be paid the same way they have been paid in the past.
 - iv. Students who receive the GRF are only eligible to work .25 FTE.
- b. Tuition:
 - i. The student receives a tuition benefit from the Graduate Tuition Benefit Program through the GRF, provided all other tuition benefit program criteria are met (including term limits).
 - ii. Students will need to register for 9 credit hours per semester unless they have met the tuition benefit program (TBP) term limits. If they have met the TBP term limits, students will only need to register for 3 credit hours per semester.
 - iii. Both resident and nonresident students are assessed resident tuition and fees if they are only registered for thesis research.

- iv. The PhD Office will pay FULL mandatory tuition/fees for fall and spring semesters if not covered by the GRF.
- c. Health Insurance:
 - i. The PhD Office will pay 20% of premium costs since 80% of the premium costs are covered by the GRF.
- d. Research Money:
 - i. The PhD Office will provide \$1,000 in research money.