

## GRADUATE SCHOOL, GETTING IT ALL PAID FOR:

### Finding Funding Links

There are many opportunities available to help you finance your graduate education, many of them for graduate programs only. The money is out there, the challenge is finding it. Be sure to research financial aid, scholarship, fellowship and assistantship deadlines...they are often earlier than application deadlines. It is more common to find an assistantship as a Ph.D. student than as a Masters student, but it is possible as a Masters student. More funding is available for full-time graduate students than part-time students.

#### **Graduate Assistantships:**

Assistantships are provided by the university in exchange for services or work, usually on a part-time (10 or 20 hours per week) basis. Assistantships may be awarded based on need, academic merit, or appropriate experience. The award may offer a monthly stipend, full or partial tuition waiver or both.

Some types of assistantships:

- Teaching Assistantships: Teach undergraduate courses part-time. A T.A. position is an important and valuable experience for those planning a career in college teaching.
- Research Assistantships: Conduct research assignments under the supervision of faculty members. Sometimes a research assistantship can be used to meet degree requirements.
- Residence Life, Student Affairs and Counseling Assistantships: These usually involve a combination of administrative work and counseling or advising. Residence life assistantships will require you to live in undergraduate housing, and usually offer room, board and a stipend (and possibly a tuition waiver). These assistantships are usually a part of programs in student personnel, psychology, social work or counseling. Even if you are not pursuing a degree in one of these programs, you may want to pursue this type of assistantship if your undergraduate experiences gave you some exposure to these fields.

#### **Graduate Fellowships:**

Fellowships are an outright grant for graduate study or research, which do not require any work or service in return. Some examples of well-known fellowships are the Rhodes, Fulbright, Rotary and Watson. Many of these types of awards require institutional support from a SLU faculty member; in other words, you cannot apply for them on your own. In addition to the well-known fellowships, there are other opportunities available through SLU or through the institutions to which you are applying. To be competitive for these awards, seek out your faculty advisor early (junior year) to learn more about opportunities.

#### **Other Financial Resources:**

- Loans
- Military
- Employers – Some employers will reimburse education costs for employees who continue their education in a field related to their employment.
- Work (Full or Part time)
- Administrative Internships – Given in exchange for administrative services, and are great experience for students planning a career in education administration. These can be awarded based on academic merit, financial need or appropriate experience. May provide a full or partial tuition waiver, a stipend, or both.
- Ask the schools and departments to which you are applying for information on opportunities specific to their school.

## **Finding Funding:**

### **Databases Searches:**

FinAid.com - <http://www.finaid.org/>

FastWEB – [www.fastWEB.com](http://www.fastWEB.com)

College Board's Scholarship Search – [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

CollegeNET MACH25 – [www.collegenet.com/](http://www.collegenet.com/)

### **Online Directories:**

Gradview.com- <http://www.gradview.com/financialaid/index.html>

About.com Graduate School – <http://gradschool.about.com/cs/financialaid/index.htm>

Scholarship Listings - [http://www.college-scholarships.com/free\\_scholarship\\_searches.htm](http://www.college-scholarships.com/free_scholarship_searches.htm)

Gradschool.com - <http://www.gradschools.com/info/financial.html>

### **Minority Resources:**

Scholarships for Minorities - [www.free-4u.com/minority.htm](http://www.free-4u.com/minority.htm)

United College Negro Fund - <http://www.uncf.org/default.asp>

GEM Fellowships – Engineering and Science - [www.nd.edu/~gem/](http://www.nd.edu/~gem/)

ERA Minority Dissertation Fellowships - <http://www.acm.org>

### **Samples of Other Grants and Fellowships:**

Fulbright Program - [www.iie.org](http://www.iie.org)

Spencer Foundation - [www.spencer.org](http://www.spencer.org)

National Research Council - [www.nationalacademies.org/fellowships](http://www.nationalacademies.org/fellowships)

Mellon Fellowships - [www.woodrow.org/mellon/](http://www.woodrow.org/mellon/)

The Rhodes Scholarship Trust - [www.rhodesscholar.org](http://www.rhodesscholar.org)

### **Resources for Women:**

Resources for Women in Science - [www.awis.org/ed\\_foundation.html](http://www.awis.org/ed_foundation.html)

American Association of University Women (AAUW) Fellowships -  
[www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships\\_grants/index.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships_grants/index.cfm)

### **Other Resources:**

NSF Graduate Funding - [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/funding\\_results.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/funding_results.jsp)

Graduate Assistantship Directory - <http://www.acm.org>

### **Books:**

- Directory of Grants in the Humanities, 2002
- Foundation Grants to Individuals, 2003
- Directory of Biomedical and Health Care Grants, 2001
- Fellowships and Prizes of Interest to Historians, 2000
- Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families, 2002
- The Grants Register, 2004: The Complete Guide to Postgraduate Funding Worldwide, 2003
- Scholarships, Fellowships, and Loans: A Guide to Education-Related Financial Aid Programs for Students and Professionals, 2002

### **Additional Websites:**

Federal Student Aid: Financial Aid Funding -

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/funding.jsp?tab=funding>

SLU Assistantship Information - <http://www.slu.edu/graduate/assistantships.html>

SLU Fellowship Information - <http://www.slu.edu/graduate/fellowships.html>