



The Graduate School's Ph.D. Fellowship Tuition Support Program

Most nationally-competitive graduate fellowships include a tuition allowance (often called a cost of education allowance) for the purpose of providing partial or full payment of the graduate fellow's tuition and fee expenses. Many cost of education allowances have not kept pace with graduate tuition and fee rates and often fall short of meeting the graduate fellow's educational expenses. Most institutionally-sponsored graduate fellowships (e.g., those funded by the WSU Foundation accounts) do not include a full tuition allowance. The WSU **Fellowship Tuition Support Program** enables graduate students supported by fellowships access to supplemental tuition assistance administered by the Graduate School. For more information concerning supplemental tuition support and the qualifications, please review the **Education Allowance Policy**. Questions concerning each of these tuition programs may be directed to the Graduate School.

Education Allowance Policy

Many national graduate fellowships provide an institutional cost of education allowance (sometimes referred to as the university allowance). These fellowships include, but are not limited to, the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, NIH Fellowships, and the Ford Foundation Pre-doctoral Fellowship. The cost of education allowances typically are provided by fellowships in lieu of covering tuition and fees and may be used for education-related purposes to benefit the fellow and/or other graduate students. It is the intent of the institution to ensure that incentives exist for graduate students to seek competitive graduate fellowship support and for graduate fellows to be recognized and honored for the distinction that they bring to themselves and to the university as a result of their success. The cost of education allowance is a common part of financial support offered to recruit and retain academically superior applicants who come to WSU under a fellowship program. Current WSU students may also be eligible for this benefit if they obtain a fellowship award while enrolled in a graduate program.

If students are interested in seeking fellowship opportunities they may inquire within the [Office of Grant and Research Development](#) (OGRD) which provides the [Informer](#) data base that contains graduate student extramural funding opportunities. Students may sign up to receive automatic email notices with funding opportunities in their specific disciplines if they inquire within [OGRD](#).

The following guidelines describe the administration of WSU's **Fellowship Tuition Support Program** allowance. These guidelines pertain to all eligible fellowships, new and continuing, effective July 1, 2011:

1. The funding may include nationally competitive, externally-funded graduate fellowships which provide at least 50% of in-state tuition and fees (cost of education allowance), are awarded to students by the sponsoring agencies, and are administered by Washington State University. *The determination of nationally competitive, externally funded sources will be determined by the Dean of the Graduate School.*
2. In addition, foundations and other non-profit agencies that award student fellowships that provide at least 50% of in-state tuition and fees (cost of education allowance) may utilize the **Fellowship Tuition Support Program** but must be approved by the Dean of the Graduate School in advance.
3. Student Support Qualifications:
 - Admitted into a degree-seeking program and enrolled full time with ten (10) credits or more during the semester they receive tuition support
 - Paid a stipend of at least \$800 per month for the academic year
 - Maintain a 3.0 GPA or better
4. **Fellowship Tuition Support Program** will supplement the fellowship cost of education allowance up to 50% of the current resident tuition rate. This tuition support is available for Fall and Spring semesters only. Summer session will not be included in this program.
5. The total amount of Fellowship's cost of education allowance must be applied toward tuition and fees before the supplemental **Fellowship Tuition Support Program** award is determined for any given semester. The Fellowship Tuition Support award will cover the remaining tuition costs up to 50%. This tuition support will not cover any mandatory fees related to enrollment or student options. All tuition waivers assessed will comply with University policies and will not exceed the total cost of in-state tuition. At no point will a student be provided a financial gain from the Fellowship Tuition Support Program.
6. As with other matters pertaining to graduate education, the Dean of the Graduate School has the authority to grant exceptions to these policies when compelling evidence indicates it is in the best interests of the institution to do so.