

## Funding

**Financial support** is available for graduate students in the Department of Life Sciences Communication. Many of our graduates are funded through assistantships—either in our department, working under the direction of one of our faculty members, or in one of numerous other departments and programs that regularly look to LSC to provide them with students with strong communication skills.

## Assistantships

Most graduate students who receive support serve as teaching, research, or project assistants.

**Assistantships** are typically part-time positions that pay a monthly stipend. Additionally, positions that are 33.33% or more (based on a 40-hour work week) pay all tuition for the students and also make the students eligible for comprehensive health insurance coverage (a benefit approximately \$4,200 annually). Additional information about assistantships may be found on the web at

<http://www.grad.wisc.edu/education/acadpolicy/guidelines.html#121>.

LSC graduate students are notified of all vacant assistantships via the grad program's student listserv (lsc\_gradprog@lists.wisc.edu). Assistantships that are part of research centers or federal grants may not always be posted on the listserv. Students that are employed on externally-funded research projects typically have a particular interest in the specific area of research and demonstrate expertise and knowledge that will benefit the project.

## Fellowships

The department nominates its most competitive grad applicants for fellowship awards.

**University Fellowships** are awarded through the Graduate School

<http://uwofrr.wordpress.com/fellowships/university-fellowships/>. The two-year Recruitment Fellowship is offered in the Social Science and Arts and Humanities division. Two years of fellowship support is provided by the Graduate School, in the form of stipend, tuition, fees, and eligibility for health insurance. The first year of the fellowship is awarded for the first year of the fellow's program of graduate study. The second year is provided once the student becomes a dissertator.

The department also nominates students for Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowships (WDGF) <http://www.grad.wisc.edu/admin/accounting/fellowfacts11.html>, which are awarded by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

### **Advanced Opportunity Fellowships (AOF)**

This fellowship <http://www.grad.wisc.edu/education/funding/aof.html> is awarded to targeted students. To be considered for AOF funding, students must be United States citizens or permanent residents and be admissible to a graduate program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The department applies for AOF fellowships on behalf of LSC students through the Graduate Research Scholars Program (Sci/Med GRS) run jointly between CALS and the School of Medicine and Public Health.

### **Financial Aid**

Students who are U.S. citizens or Permanent Residents can apply for Federal Stafford Loans (subsidized and unsubsidized) and for Federal Work-Study through the **Office of Student Financial Aid** <http://www.finaid.wisc.edu/>. Eligibility is based on financial need. OSFA also offers information on the **cost of attendance** at <http://www.finaid.wisc.edu/cost-of-attendance.htm>.

### **Emergency (Short-Term) Loans**

OSAF also offers emergency short-term loans to qualified students.

Short-term loans are available through the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS). They are given only to assist the unanticipated emergency situations, and must be repaid within the semester in which they are borrowed. To be considered for a short-term loan, you must complete a short-term loan application and submit it in an appointment with a financial aid counselor.

### **Other Assistantships and Hourly Employment**

Other employment opportunities are available both on campus and in the community. Openings for full and part-time jobs for students and spouses are listed on the **Student Job Center** web site <http://jobcenter.wisc.edu/>.