Financial Assistance

Assistantships

- A graduate assistantship, teaching (GAT), research (GAR), and non-teaching (GANT), is available to a qualified student on a competitive basis. Students holding graduate assistantships work an average of 20 hours per week. Most assistantships are awarded through the applicant's academic department. An applicant should contact the department head or graduate advisor concerning the availability of assistantships. The Student Employment Office posts assistantship opportunities via Jobs for Aggies.
- A graduate student (domestic or international) must register for the appropriate number of University semester credit hours to maintain full-time status during any semester (9 hours for spring and fall) or summer term (6 hours in any combination) in which they hold an assistantship. Colleges and departments may impose additional semester credit hour requirements for a student holding an assistantship which exceeds the minimum stated above.
- According to Texas Education Code, Sec. 54.212, a teaching assistant or research assistant of any institution of higher education and the spouse and children of such a teaching assistant or research assistant are entitled to register in a state institution of higher education by paying the tuition fees and other fees or charges required for Texas residents under Section 54.051 of this code, without regard to the length of time the assistant has resided in Texas, if the assistant is employed at least one-half time in a teaching or research assistant position which relates to the assistant's degree program under rules and regulations established by the employer institution. Transferred and re-designated from Education Code, Section 54.063 by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 359, Sec. 1, eff. January 1, 2012.
- Termination of a student's employment (voluntary or involuntary) during the semester may result in revocation of the non-resident waiver, recalculation of tuition at the nonresident or international rate, and immediate payment of the tuition due.
- Employment must be for the entire semester in which the student is enrolled and actual paid work must commence on or before the official census date for the term (12th class day for fall and spring, 4th class day for summer), to be eligible for a nonresident tuition waiver.
- Terms used to describe qualifying positions are intended to indicate an academic position, not a position title.
- Volunteer or unpaid work does not constitute employment.
- Student worker positions do not qualify for non-resident tuition waivers.

Fellowships

Ordinarily, graduate students holding fellowships are not required to perform any services. Therefore, a fellowship holder is not considered an employee and FICA regulations do not apply. A graduate student (domestic or international) holding a fellowship administered through the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (except for the TAMU Dissertation Fellowship) must register for a minimum of:
- 9 semester credit hours during a fall or spring semester;
- 6 hours in any combination for summer.

Outside entities who administer fellowships, Colleges and departments may adhere to the same or exceed the minimum semester credit hour requirements stated above. A Q grade before the 12th class day does not count toward the certification of enrollment status. Unless specifically excluded by the conditions of the fellowship award, a student holding a fellowship administered through the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies may concurrently hold an assistantship requiring service of 20 hours per week. A graduate student concurrently holding a fellowship with a one-quarter time assistantship normally has the same registration requirements as a student holding a one-half time assistantship.

Many competitive fellowships of $1,000 or greater per academic year also allow students to pay tuition at the in-state rate. Fellowships packages vary from $1,000 to over $30,000, and some include funds for insurance, tuition, and fees.

Scholarships & Financial Aid

The mission of Scholarships & Financial Aid is to provide students with information and financial resources to attend Texas A&M University, along with support programs that promote higher education and developmental opportunities. As a part of this commitment, we strive to provide financial solutions to students at all income levels and with varying academic, merit and leadership qualifications.

The need-based financial assistance program is designed for all students who have a demonstrated financial need, as defined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), in order to assist the student in paying college expenses. All financial aid is contingent upon student enrollment and making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), as defined by Scholarships & Financial Aid or the specific aid program.

Financial aid has two forms: gift aid and self-help.

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Texas A&M University’s packaging philosophy for need-based financial aid is to provide the greatest amount of gift aid to those students with the highest demonstrated need and to keep loan liability to a minimum. Financial aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis with a published priority date of March 15 prior to the fall semester for which the student is seeking aid. Financial aid offers are made based on the assumption that students will enroll full-time in the fall and spring semesters. Cost of attendance and awards will be adjusted for graduate and professional students who are enrolled less than full-time at Texas A&M University (as defined by academic program/level).

To apply for financial assistance, a student must submit a FAFSA. Students are encouraged to submit their FAFSA on the Internet at https://fafsa.ed.gov as soon as possible. Only those students who have been accepted for enrollment and whose FAFSA results and other documents requested by Scholarships & Financial Aid are on file will be sent a financial aid offer. Financial aid offers will be sent beginning in June for the following academic year. Summer financial assistance is offered to students with a FAFSA on file who enroll in summer coursework at Texas A&M.
The FAFSA is available via the Internet at https://fafsa.ed.gov, most college or university student financial aid offices or by contacting:

Scholarships & Financial Aid
Texas A&M University
P. O. Box 30016
College Station, TX 77842-3016
(979) 845-3236
financialaid@tamu.edu
FAFSA School Code 003632

Please visit our website (http://financialaid.tamu.edu) for the most current information on programs and any associated deadlines.

Loan Programs
The Federal Direct Loan Programs are available to students who have submitted a FAFSA. Students will be notified of their eligibility for the Direct Loan program(s) through a financial aid offer.

Graduate and professional students seeking the Federal Direct Graduate PLUS (Grad PLUS) Loan may obtain information from our website (http://financialaid.tamu.edu). This program also requires the FAFSA to be on file with Scholarships & Financial Aid.

Short-term loans are available to provide assistance to students who experience temporary financial difficulties with educationally related expenses. Funding for this program is provided by The Association of Former Students, the Class of 1926 and other University resources. This program is not intended to provide long-term assistance or to replace other assistance available through Scholarships & Financial Aid. Students must be degree-seeking and enrolled at least half-time to be eligible for short-term loans.

The Emergency Tuition and Required Fees loan program is available to help students pay their Texas A&M University tuition and required fees. The loan is applied directly to the student’s tuition and fee account.

Please refer to our website (http://financialaid.tamu.edu) for detailed information on all of the aforementioned programs and more.

Scholarships
Continuing Student Scholarships
The Continuing Student Academic Excellence Award application is available to students with at least one semester completed at Texas A&M. Awards range in value from $500 to $1,500 and are available to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students currently enrolled at Texas A&M. Some awards are limited to certain fields of study and to individuals who have attained a necessary academic classification, while others are unrestricted. Awards are made to outstanding students based on a combination of academic achievement, campus/community involvement, campus leadership roles, and, for some scholarships, financial need. In addition to scholarships offered through the Scholarships & Financial Aid office, many colleges, departments, the Corps of Cadets, and the Texas A&M Foundation use the Continuing Student Academic Excellence application for award consideration. Students are encouraged to complete the Continuing Student Scholarship Application, beginning in October via the scholarships website. The deadline for submitting applications is February 1, prior to the academic year for which the student will be awarded.

Scholarship Recipients and Non-Resident Tuition Waivers
A student who is awarded a competitive University scholarship of at least $1,000 for the academic year or summer for which the student is enrolled and who is either a non-resident or a citizen of a country other than the United States of America may be entitled to pay the fees and charges required of Texas residents without regard to the length of time the student has resided in Texas. This scholarship must be awarded by a scholarship committee officially recognized by the Texas A&M University administration, and each waiver must be approved. For applicable recipients, selective service registration is required.

Other Scholarship Information
Students are encouraged to contact their college and major department for additional scholarship opportunities. Additionally, Scholarships & Financial Aid has information regarding scholarship resources available online.

Address requests for additional information to:
Texas A&M University
Scholarships & Financial Aid
P. O. Box 30016
College Station, TX 77842-3016
(979) 845-3236
scholarships@tamu.edu

Student Part-Time Employment
In addition to the assistantships and fellowships offered by academic departments and coordinated by OGAPS, the Student Employment Office in Scholarships & Financial Aid coordinates student part-time employment, both off- and on-campus in the Bryan/College Station area. Students may visit the online job database. Work Study, assistantships and other part-time positions are posted. Students secure their own employment through job leads provided by Scholarships & Financial Aid or through their own initiative.

On-campus student employees are paid minimum wage or higher and are paid bi-weekly along with regular University employees. University student employees are not eligible for paid holidays, retirement, vacation, nor sick leave.

Professional development workshops are also available for student employees and supervisors of student employees. These free workshops include topics ranging from communication skills to preventing sexual harassment in the workplace and from customer service to workplace etiquette. For more information or to register, please visit the Jobs for Aggies (http://jobsforaggies.tamu.edu) website or call (979) 845-0686.

Financial Literacy
The Money Wise Aggie, Texas A&M University’s personal finance advising and educational program, is designed to help students make smart personal finance decisions while pursuing their academic degrees and to lay a foundation for financial success throughout life.

The Money Wise Aggie is a free service to students that provides personal advising and presentations in the following areas:
- Money Management
- Credit Cards and Credit Scores
- Premarital Money Discussions
- Financial Challenges After College
Financial Assistance

- Debt Reduction Strategies
- Identity Theft
- Financial Aid
- Student Loan Repayment
- Saving and Investing
- Major Purchases (Cars and Homes)

Advisors participating in The Money Wise Aggie program are financial aid advisors who have been awarded the Accredited Financial Counselor™ or Certified Financial Planner™ designations. Each advisor provides objective, unbiased advice to help students make informed decisions about their finances. Advisors also provide scheduled presentations on-campus throughout the semester, as well as presentations to organizations upon request. Individual student advising is available by appointment. For more information, please visit the Money Wise Aggie website.