

# **URI Graduate Tuition Supplement Guidelines**

## **What is the Graduate Tuition Supplement?**

For graduate research assistants (RA), the graduate tuition supplement covers the difference in tuition costs between the tuition charged to external funds and the actual tuition cost. For Academic Year 2026-2027, the graduate tuition cost charged to external funds is \$13,230 (\$6,615 per semester). Documents detailing the supplemented tuition rates for each year are found on the Division of Research and Economic Development's [Proposal Budgeting Guidance page](#). For example, the AY 26-27 actual graduate tuition cost for a full-time out-of-state graduate student is \$33,328. The external fund provides \$13,230 to reduce tuition costs, and the remaining \$20,098 is charged to the college tuition supplement fund.

## **Purpose of the Graduate Tuition Supplement**

The graduate tuition supplement is intended to incentivize external funding for primarily Ph.D. students by reducing tuition costs, thereby enhancing competitiveness in grant applications and development requests.

## **Use of the Graduate Tuition Supplement**

University Supplements are available only for graduate research assistants supported by externally sponsored awards (e.g., federal, state, or other sponsored grants and eligible foundation awards administered through the University's research administration processes). Institutional funds, including service center funds (Fund 105), indirect cost recovery funds (Fund 110), and other university operating funds, are not eligible.

URI will not provide the tuition supplement for students enrolled in professional doctorate programs or professional master's programs (defined as non-thesis master's). Standard tuition rates will apply to professional doctorate programs and professional master's non-thesis) programs.

While there is no time limit on the length of time that the graduate tuition supplement can be used to support a given student, major professors are encouraged to get their Ph.D. students to "All But Dissertation" (ABD) eligibility before the start of their fourth year.

## **Management of the Graduate Tuition Supplement**

The graduate tuition supplement has been incorporated into the college's budgets and is now within the college's purview to manage in accordance with these guidelines. The use of the supplement is facilitated through the SGA2 form, which the Graduate School processes for each research assistant. The Graduate School reserves the right to deny the use of tuition supplement funds that do not follow these guidelines at the SGA2 processing step. Changes in a college's graduate tuition supplement allocation will be determined as part of the budget hearing process. Colleges are responsible for being stewards of equity and inclusion of all institutional resources.