

'Budgeting for a GA' Calculator

Welcome to the step-by-step guide on how to budget for an **extramural** graduate assistant position when using your own worktag (account number). By the end of this document, you should have a clear idea of how much a graduate assistant will cost for your department.

Graduate assistants are either state funded or extramurally (externally) funded. The Graduate College allocates state funds to academic deans to hire state funded GAs, while extramural GAs are funded by sources outside of the Graduate College, such as grants, contracts, CGRAs, CIGAs and departmental/non-academic units on campus. **State funded graduate assistantships are not subject to the same calculation measures as extramurally funded graduate assistantships.** The following GA Calculator is only intended to calculate **extramural** graduate assistant packages.

The four factors considered to fund an extramural graduate assistantship are **stipend, fringe benefits, tuition, and fees**. The Graduate College processes health insurance and out-of-state tuition and fee waivers.

Please use the following steps to calculate the budget for a graduate assistant package.

Step 1. GA Stipend

unlv.edu/graduatecollege/ga-stipend

A stipend is a monthly monetary payment that GAs get in exchange for their work similar to a paycheck. The factors that determine the stipend amount include **what kind of graduate student the candidate is, what department is awarding the GA position, and how the position is funded**. Please see the [GA stipend website](#) to check the current stipend amount offered by your department.

The general guidance for GA stipend amounts are as follows:

Master's minimum stipend for **TWO SEMESTERS**: \$17,000
Master's minimum stipend for **ONE SEMESTER**: \$8,500

Doctoral minimum stipend for **TWO SEMESTERS**: \$22,000
Doctoral minimum stipend for **ONE SEMESTER**: \$11,000

Once you have verified the correct stipend for the GA position, please type it into the box below.

Total GA Stipend:

Step 2. Fringe Benefit

unlv.edu/controller/fringe-pool-rates

The graduate assistantship package must account for a fringe benefit, which is 13.3% of the GA stipend.

Total Fringe Benefit:

Step 3. Tuition

unlv.edu/apply/college-costs

Tuition rates are calculated per credit. The tuition rate is subject to change, so please check the table below for the rate that corresponds to the academic year of your graduate assistant package.

All graduate assistants from out-of-state receive a non-resident tuition fee waiver. This means they receive in-state tuition costs. The Graduate College processes the waivers.

Graduate assistant packages include tuition costs for up to nine credits. Master's students typically receive the full **nine credits** per semester, while doctoral GA packages typically cover **six credits** per semester. Please consult appropriately to determine how many credits your department wishes to include in the graduate assistant package.

Tuition Rates per Academic Year

	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
Full Cost Per Credit	\$321.75	\$344.25	\$353.50	\$372

Use the table above to fill in the correct costs below.

Full Cost per Credit:

How many credits the department will cover:

How many semesters the GA package will cover:

Total Tuition Amount:

Step 4. Fees

unlv.edu/cashiering/tuition-fees

There are multiple fees applied to every student each semester. Some are a standard per term expense and some are calculated per credit.

Departments can choose to cover the fees as a part of the GA package or leave the fees as a responsibility of the student to pay out of pocket. Below is an exhaustive list of all of the possible fees a student can have.

If your department will not be covering any fees, please leave all form fields blank or \$0.00 and continue on to the next step.

Fees per Semester

CAPS	\$60.00
Grad Profes Dev	\$35.00
GPSA	\$25.00
Study Abroad	\$2.00
Student Health	\$108.50
Rebel Recycling	\$1.00
Student Life	\$223.00
TOTAL:	\$454.50

How many semesters the GA package will cover:

Cost of fees per semester:

Total fees per semester for GA offer:

Fees per Credit

Newspaper	\$0.20
Technology	\$11.00
Graduate student services fee	\$7.00
TOTAL:	\$18.20

How many credits the department will cover:

How many semesters the GA package will cover:

Cost of fees per credit:

Total fees per credit:

Various Additional Fees (If Applicable)

	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	2026 - 2027
International Student Fees Per Semester ¹	\$145.00	\$145.00	\$145.00	\$145.00
New Student (one time)	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00
Distance Ed Per Credit	\$102.00	\$102.00	\$102.00	\$102.00
Diploma Fee (one time)	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00

Total Various Additional Fees:

Per Credit Differential Fees

	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 2026	2026 - 2027
Architecture 500-700 Level	\$239.50	\$239.50	\$239.50	\$239.50
Business 500-700 Per Credit	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Educational Policy & Leadership 600-700 Level (Effective Spring 2017)	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$175.00
Executive MBA 700 Level	\$236.00	\$236.00	\$236.00	\$236.00
Executive MHA 700 Level	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Couple & Family Therapy 700 and above	\$177.50	\$177.50	\$177.50	\$177.50
Nursing 500-700 Level	\$239.50	\$239.50	\$239.50	\$239.50
Physical Therapy 500-700 Level	\$239.50	\$239.50	\$239.50	\$239.50
Social Work 700 Level	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
Urban Leadership 700 Level	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Engineering 600-700 Level	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
Cybersecurity CSEC Credits	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00

Differential Fee per Credit **Cost:**

Number of Differential Fee **Credits:**

Total per Credit Differential Fees:

Total Fees Amount:

Health Insurance

unlv.edu/graduatecollege/current/healthinsurance

Health insurance is mandatory for graduate students taking nine or more credits, international students, and graduate assistants. GAs are given a subsidy by the

Graduate College to cover the full cost of the student health insurance. Graduate assistants may fill out a health insurance waiver if they have qualifying health insurance through a different provider by visiting the [graduate assistant health insurance website](#).

Your Budget Needs for a Graduate Assistant

Based on the information you provided above, the total projected cost for your graduate assistant will be