

Financial Assistance

(General Catalog information on Financial Aid is reprinted in Appendix A, page 143.) Students accepted into a program of graduate study or into a post-baccalaureate certification program at UT Permian Basin are eligible to apply for financial assistance. For more detailed information, students should refer to *The Guide to Scholarships and other Financial Assistance at The University of Texas of the Permian Basin* or contact the Office of Financial Aid.

Satisfactory Academic Progress. Students enrolled in graduate degree programs or post-baccalaureate programs are expected to meet qualitative and quantitative standards similar to the undergraduate programs in order to be eligible to receive financial aid benefits (as outlined in Appendix A).

In addition, graduate students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.00 or higher. Post-baccalaureate students must maintain at least a CGPA equivalent to that which is required for successful completion of the student's certification or licensing program. Students who fail to maintain the minimum CGPA requirements will be placed on financial aid probation. Students placed on financial aid probation will have the equivalent of one full-time semester to attain the minimum required CGPA (9 hours for graduate study, 12 hours for post-baccalaureate). Failure to attain the minimum requirements within the probationary period will result in suspension of financial aid eligibility until the minimum requirements are met. The "Financial Aid" portion of this catalog contains information about student rights of appeal and procedures for reinstatement of aid eligibility.

Graduate and post-baccalaureate students are subject to the same regulations governing maximum time frames for completing a program of study one and one-half times the stated length of a program. For example, a graduate degree program which requires thirty-six semester credit hours of graduate study must be completed within 54 attempted hours (36 hrs. x 1.50). Other program lengths would be similarly calculated. Leveling work required for admission into a program of study will be added to the program's stated length to determine maximum time allowed for completion. Additionally, graduate and post-baccalaureate students must have successfully completed at least seventy-five percent (75%) of attempted enrollments at the end of the spring semester in order to be eligible for financial assistance during the following year.

Funding for Student Teaching. Students enrolled in student teaching are considered to be registered as full-time students. Financial Aid will be based on fifth year senior status.

Outside Funded Fellowships. Private foundations and research grant programs sometimes offer fellowship grants and stipends to graduate assistants within the various disciplines. Information on available fellowships may be obtained by contacting department chairs and program coordinators.

Funding for Practicums, Internships and Theses/Projects. Students enrolled in practicums, internships and theses/projects are considered less than halftime students for purposes of receiving financial aid. Less than halftime students are not eligible for Financial Aid.

A limited number of Graduate Assistantships are available for teaching and research. They are awarded to enable students to devote major efforts to study and professional development. Students who receive these awards are encouraged not to accept employment other than the Assistantship during the period of the award and will be required to enroll full-time during the award period.

Students who accept Assistantships are University employees and thus are obligated in the same way as other employees. An explanation of duties and responsibilities will be provided to each assistant. As a University employee, any Graduate Assistant wishing to accept employment in an off-campus job (or in any University appointment outside the assistantship) is required to file a written Request for Prior Approval of Outside

Employment. The form is available in the office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and online located on the UTPB Homepage, Administration, Academic Affairs, and University Forms.

A graduate student may not hold an Assistantship or a combination of Assistantships or other University positions in excess of one-half time employment (20 hours per week) without written approval of the department chair or program coordinator in which the student is enrolled and the Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies.

Graduate Assistantships

PROPOSED

The proposed policies and procedures for graduate assistantships are under consideration for addition to **Part V of the Handbook of Operating Procedures**. They may be reviewed on the Graduate Studies home web page at <http://www.utpb.edu/gradstudies/>.