



Graduate School
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8 November 2021

TO: Graduate Program Chairs, Department Chairs, Directors of Graduate Study and Graduate Program Coordinators

FROM: William J. Karpus, Dean of the Graduate School

RE: FY23 Graduate Assistant Stipend Minima and Principles

With the new academic year as well as the fall 2022 graduate student application process well underway, it is time to start planning graduate assistantship (GA) rates for FY23 and this memorandum provides guidance. The Graduate School, in consultation with the Offices of the Provost and the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, sets the **MINIMUM** rates for all GA titles. Provost Scholz and Vice Chancellor Cramer have reviewed and approved the content of this memo.

Programs (with approval from their school/college) are required to determine and submit their FY23 assistantship rates to the Graduate School by December 18, 2021, at [Assistantship Rate Document](#) (you need to be logged into your UW-Madison G Suite). The actual graduate assistant stipend dollar amounts (per 50% appointment) that the department/program will pay graduate students should be entered in the worksheet. For example, if you plan to pay teaching assistants (TAs) the minimum stipend, you enter that dollar number. If you plan to supplement the minimum TA stipend with gift or other funds, enter the total dollar amount for the 50% assistantship appointment.

The rate setting procedure allows departments/programs to set market stipends for all GA mechanisms (RA, TA, PA, and LSA), which makes it simpler for prospective graduate students to compare offers from UW-Madison and other institutions, thus helping us compete for top students. We use adjustments to the dollar amount, rather than to appointment percentage, to set stipends.

The following principles should be considered as you determine rates for FY23:

- **Graduate programs/departments will work with their school/college dean's office** to establish rates at or above the campus minima, allowing for flexibility to accommodate different market factors while maintaining the principle that graduate students will not get a stipend cut from the previous year.
- The Graduate School's *Academic Policies and Procedures* describes [maximum levels of appointments](#) and [concurrent appointments](#).
- **Graduate students appointed as a RA must be paid the rate associated with the academic program in which they are enrolled.** If a graduate student is appointed as a RA in a different department, they are paid at the rate associated with their academic program home.
- When making admissions offers for Fall 2022 enrollment, departments/programs **should indicate to applicants in writing a 4- or 5-year funding package guarantee, contingent on satisfactory academic progress and availability of funds.** When making an offer of admission with a financial

Office of the Dean

217 Bascom Hall 500 Lincoln Drive Madison, WI 53706-1380 grad.wisc.edu
Email: dean@grad.wisc.edu; Phone: (608) 263-1353; Fax: (608) 265-9505

commitment, departments/programs must abide by the Council of Graduate Schools [April 15 resolution](#), to which UW-Madison is a signatory.

- The FY23 minimum rate for TA appointments shown below reflects a **3% increase**; the minimum PA rate is an **3% increase**; the minimum LSA rate is a **3% increase**; and the minimum RA rate reflects a **4% increase** over current fiscal year. For Fund 101-funded TA, PA and LSA students, the Budget Office will provide a permanent supplement in your 2022-23 budget planning allocations to cover the cost of the increase. The RA minimum rate increase is slightly larger to bring RA rates in alignment with those of TA/PA appointments. The increases in all the GA categories ensure we remain at or above our AAU peer group median stipend levels.

The FY23 GA and fellowship **MINIMUM** funding rates are as follows:

Teaching assistantship (per 50% appointment)

Academic: \$21,115

Lecturer Student Assistant (per 50% appointment)

Academic: \$23,175

Project assistantship (per 50% appointment)

Annual: \$25,808

Academic: \$21,115

Research assistantship (per 50% appointment)

Annual: \$25,809

Academic: \$21,116

PA grader/reader

Hourly rate: \$22.22

University Fellowship, Advanced Opportunity Fellowship and Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship

Annual: \$29,000

Academic: \$23,727

The Graduate School will review rates reported by departments and programs in all categories and communicate approval or request changes by January 18, 2022.

Should you have any questions, please contact Associate Dean Lisa Martin (lisa.martin@wisc.edu)

cc: Lisa Martin, Associate Dean, Graduate School
Christopher Yue, Assistant Dean, Graduate School