

# Graduate Student Financial Support at GVSU

---

Hello and welcome. My name is Kassie and I am a staff member in the Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. We hope you are considering Grand Valley for your graduate education. You may have some questions regarding financial support for your graduate career and we are here to help! This podcast will outline some funding opportunities that Grand Valley offers to our graduate students.

If you have already graduated from Grand Valley, we are committed to help prepare you for a lifetime of continual learning. This commitment began when you first enrolled as a student and continues long after you become an alum. To show this commitment, Grand Valley provides all GVSU alumni with a Laker Lifetime Learning (L3) account, funded with \$1,000 to help support your educational needs. This financial aid is available to any GVSU graduate to use for future classes at the university. To learn more about the L3, please visit [www.gvsu.edu/l3](http://www.gvsu.edu/l3).

Other financial opportunities include the Graduate School's Graduate Assistantship program. As a Graduate Assistant, you will be provided with part-time, paid work experiences in your field of study, and have the opportunity to expand and/or apply your discipline knowledge and skills under supervision. This way, GA's will benefit from enhancing their academic experience and skills in addition to receiving financial support while completing a graduate degree. A full-time assistantship requires 20 hours of work a week for 16 weeks per semester and will provide a \$4,000 stipend in addition to receiving tuition credit for up to 9 graduate credits per semester. A half-time assistantship requires 10 hours of work a week for 16 weeks per semester and will provide a \$2,000 stipend in addition to receiving tuition credit for up to 4.5 graduate credits per semester. To qualify for a graduate assistantship, the student must be fully admitted as a degree-seeking student in a Grand Valley graduate program, maintain a minimum course load of 9 graduate credit hours per semester for a full-time assistantship or a minimum course load of 5 graduate credit hours per semester for a half-time assistantship, be in good academic standing, and be enrolled in class during the semester or semesters in which the student will be working as a GA. For more information on graduate assistantships, please visit the graduate assistantship [webpage](#).

If you are currently enrolled in a Grand Valley graduate program and need funding for a research project, the Graduate School also provides Presidential Research Grants. Presidential Research Grants award up to \$1,500 to support the research and scholarly projects of graduate students. Applicants must be degree seeking and in good academic standing. The research must be connected to the completion of some aspect of the applicant's graduate degree. Graduate students may receive one Presidential Research Grant during completion of a degree program. For more information on the Presidential Research Grants, please visit the Presidential Research Grant [webpage](#).

Do you have the opportunity to present your research at a conference? The Graduate School also provides Academic Conference Funds to support student presentations at academic conferences by offsetting the cost of travel and attendance. Awards of up to \$600.00 for domestic travel, or up to \$800.00 for international travel, will be given to those invited to present or perform at a conference

and/or meeting. Graduate students can also apply for Academic Conference Funds to pay for registration for virtual conferences. To be eligible for a grant, you must be the primary presenter, have written support from a faculty member, are in good academic standing, and are either a current graduate student or recent graduate within the past two semesters. For more information on Academic Conference Funds, please visit the Academic Conference Fund [webpage](#).

The great news about Grand Valley's graduate programs is that tuition rates do not change based on residency status. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at [www.gvsu.edu/financialaid](http://www.gvsu.edu/financialaid) or by calling (616)331-3234.

If you have any questions about this information or about anything related to your graduate education, please visit our website or contact The Graduate School at [gradschool@gvsu.edu](mailto:gradschool@gvsu.edu). Thank you for listening and we hope you choose Grand Valley for your graduate education.