

## **Politics Graduate Program Faculty Mentor Resource Sheet: Funding**

### **Introduction**

Upon admission, each Politics PhD student receives a letter outlining the number of years of guaranteed funding (usually through a combination of fellowships and TAs) they will receive. In recent years, we have mainly made 3 year offers, but have improved these offers to 4 years in competitive counter-offer cases. Given that the anticipated time to completion is at least 6 years, it means that most of our students are not guaranteed funding for the entirety of their time with us. Consequently, faculty advisors have an indispensable role to play in guiding students in the search for funding. Not only will this help students stay adequately supported all the way through to degree completion, it will also make them more competitive on the job market.

### **Timeline**

It is recommended that faculty mentors begin discussing the search for funding by the end of the student's second year in the program as part of the Qualifying Exam process. The Prospectus portion of the Qualifying Exam can be used as a template (or at least as an inspiration) for funding applications and is a good opportunity for mentors to begin helping their students submit such applications.

### **Types of Funding**

#### Teaching Assistant Positions

TAs at 50% time (20 hours per week) or more cover a student's tuition, most fees, health insurance, and a monthly paycheck. All students are added to the campus-wide TA Jobs Google Group when they accept admission to the program. Calls for TAs in different departments on campus are emailed to all students in this group. Students are strongly encouraged to apply for TAs outside of the Politics Department even during their years of guaranteed department funding to help more students get support.

#### Graduate Student Researcher Positions

GSRships at 25% time (10 hours per week) or more cover a student's tuition, all fees, health insurance, and a monthly paycheck. These positions are often offered by campus units and faculty members for graduate student assistance with research and projects. GSR opportunities are often sent to the Graduate Program Coordinator, who then disseminates them to students, but these positions are not always made public. It is recommended that faculty mentors utilize their on-campus networks to find out about GSRships for their students, as well as consider using their research funds to create GSRships and gain assistance with projects.

Some offices offering GSRships include the [Science & Justice Center](#), Research Center for the Americas, the Graduate Division, the Social Sciences Division, the Blum Center, and the Humanities Division.

### Grants and Fellowships

Grants and fellowships are provided by both on-campus and external agencies. They cover anywhere from small stipends to the entirety of a student's tuition, fees, and living stipend. Faculty mentors are encouraged to look into area-specific grant and fellowship opportunities for their graduate students, as well as include graduate students on their own grants and research projects.

A list of on and off-campus agencies that provide fellowships can be found on the Politics Department Graduate Program website.

### **Costs**

Graduate student costs change yearly. Here is the most updated sheet:

	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Fall 2019</u>	<u>Winter 2020</u>	<u>Spring 2020</u>	<u>Part Time</u> (per term)	<u>In Absentia</u> (per term)
<b>Graduate Student Fees</b>						
Student Services Fee	1128.00	376.00	376.00	376.00	376.00	56.40
CA Resident Tuition	11442.00	3814.00	3814.00	3814.00	1907.00	572.10
Campus Fees	1238.10	412.70	412.70	412.70	412.70	0.00
Health Insurance (waivable)	4857.00	1619.00	1619.00	1619.00	1619.00	1619.00
<b>Total California Resident</b> including GSHIP and campus fees	<b>\$18,665.10</b>	<b>\$6,221.70</b>	<b>\$6,221.70</b>	<b>\$6,221.70</b>	<b>\$4,314.70</b>	<b>\$2,247.50</b>
Nonresident Tuition Fee	15102.00	5034.00	5034.00	5034.00	2517.00	5034.00
<b>Total Nonresident w/ GSHIP and cam</b>	<b>\$33,767.10</b>	<b>\$11,255.70</b>	<b>\$11,255.70</b>	<b>\$11,255.70</b>	<b>\$6,831.70</b>	<b>\$7,281.50</b>
Note: The Nonresident Tuition is waived for 3 calendar years for students who have advanced to candidacy Please consult the Registrar's web page for graduate professional program supplemental charges						
<b>Filing fee: \$188</b>						
Fee Remissions:						
GSR ≥ 25% pays all tuition, fees & health insurance						
TA ≥ 25% pays Student Services fee, CA Resident Tuition & Health Insurance + \$100 towards campus fees						

To hire a Graduate Student Researcher, the faculty member must cover the GSR's salary, a 2.8% employment benefit, and tuition and fees if the position over 25% time. It is recommended that faculty members consult with their Research Budget Analysts for help calculating costs. Here are the 2019-20 salaries for Graduate Student Researcher positions. The Politics

Department hires students who have not Advanced to Candidacy at Step 6 and students who have Advanced to Candidacy at Step 8.

- Step 6: \$28.63/hr
- Step 8: \$33.38/hr

### **Enrollment Statuses**

Students can sometimes adjust their enrollment statuses to help with costs. They should contact the Graduate Program Coordinator to learn about their enrollment options.