Agenda

• Doctoral Research Excellence Assistantship
• GA Stipend Analysis
• GREAT Program
Doctoral Research Excellence Assistantship
**Purpose**
- Funded by the Chancellor’s office to provide to A&M additional fully funded doctoral assistantships at stipend levels sufficient to be competitive with peer universities, and
- Enhance A&M’s research capacity and productivity

**Criteria/Eligibility**
- Open to all academic disciplines
- Primary focus is to attract new doctoral students, but in some cases a continuing student (no more than 2 years in doctoral studies) may be the most appropriate candidate
- Funding should not supplant existing funding, but should be used to expand the number of doctoral students funded.
- Award will be forfeited if student is not admitted into a doctoral program or is released from a program.

**Stipend/Benefits**
- **Stipend**
  - $40,000 annual stipend 3-year commitment to the recipient from System funds, contingent on student remaining in good standing and progressing toward completion.
  - Additional years beyond the 3-year commitment may be granted at the discretion of the department/program/lab; additional years awarded must be funded from sources other than this program.
  - Funding is awarded to the student and follows the student to the program in which the student is enrolled.
- **Benefits**
  - All tuition and fees for required courses.
  - Graduate student Insurance (current rate is $252 per month for graduate plan; $3,024 per year)

**Number of Awards**
- Four (4) new awards each year with three (3) year commitments
FY25 Selection

• Timeline
  ✓ March 17, 2024: Notified by Chancellor’s office of funding availability and purpose
  ✓ March 29, 2024: Nomination due to the Grad School (each college submitting 1-2 nominations)
  ✓ April 5, 2024: Award notification to nominee and department/college

• Final awardees
  Nutrition, Landscape and Urban Planning, Marine Biology, Psychological and Brain Sciences

• Welcome feedback for FY26 selection process
Graduate Assistant Stipend Analysis
Growing concerns from graduate student organizations
Recommendation from academic program reviews
Nov. 2023 payroll GA salary snapshot
Living wage (MIT living wage calculation)
Peer data comparison: public AAU (n=40) & SEC (n=14)
  - Minimum monthly stipend rate
GA Salary Distribution at TAMU Nov. 2023

- 9.2% of positions below Living Wage ($1,674)
- 11.9% of positions below $1,875
- 20.7% of positions at or above $2,500

- Median of SEC Minimum ($1,826)
- Median of AAU Minimum ($2,222)
- TAMU Mode/Median ($2,250)

Bin Size = 50; There are 12 records with salary > 3420.
Seeking Feedback

• What is a reasonable minimum rate? ($1,674; $1,875; $2,000)
• Should we have different minimum for master’s and doctoral students?
• Should there be a multi-year incremental plan?

A university minimum rate will be implemented campus-wide Fall 2025
GREAT Program
### GREAT Support for NSF-GRFP and NIH-T32

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NSF-GRFP</th>
<th>GREAT Support</th>
<th>NIH T32</th>
<th>GREAT Support</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#/126 (FY23)</td>
<td>43 (34%)</td>
<td>55 (44%)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stipend rate</td>
<td>$37,000</td>
<td>top-off for 2 reserve years</td>
<td>$28,224</td>
<td>top-off for up to 5 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition/Fee</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40% for 1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>PD</td>
<td>$1,500 for up to 5 years</td>
<td>$1,500 for up to 5 years</td>
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GREAT Program (FY23)

- # of unique fellowship/grants: 16
- Continuing to build the list of eligible programs
- An increase in the # of awards in FY24
- Annual allocation
  - ~ $1million ($995,600 + $50,000 travel)
  - If raising to $39,000, $420k additional funding needed (based on current rate)
  - If raising to $40,000, $440k additional funding needed
Contact great@tamu.edu regarding

1. Eligibility for an external fellowship/grant not listed;
2. During the proposal development process for grants not yet awarded;
3. Questions about the program and request forms.

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