Financial Assistance

Return to: Financial Information (http://catalog.utep.edu/grad/financial-information/)

UTEP’s graduate students can finance their education by working and/or by taking advantage of the University’s financial assistance awards and programs. Financial aid is divided into the following types: merit-based and need-based. Merit-based awards are granted on the basis of the student’s previous academic performance. Need-based aid is awarded according to the level of the student’s financial need, with some consideration of the student’s past academic performance.

Students subject to selective-service registration will be required to file a statement that the student has registered or is exempt from selective-service registration in order to be eligible to receive financial assistance funded by state revenue, in accordance with Texas Education Code, Section 51.9095.

Cost of Attendance

Cost of Attendance information for The University of Texas at El Paso may be accessed by visiting the Financial Aid website (http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=47747/).

Merit-Based Awards

Merit-based awards consist of scholarships and fellowships. Scholarships are primarily awarded on the basis of the student’s previous academic work, but can consider any required test scores. Fellowships are generally awarded according to a student’s exceptional academic work and/or previous or proposed research in the student’s field of study. For further information, students should contact the Graduate School. Recipients must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and must meet minimum enrollment requirements to maintain award eligibility.

Need-Based Awards

The Financial Aid Office processes need-based awards. The amount and type of financial assistance provided will be by means of educational loans, grants, need-based scholarships, and student employment (Federal College Work-Study). Certain emergency loan funds or fee exemptions can also be available. Students admitted into graduate programs are eligible if they have documented need, meet academic eligibility criteria, enroll at least half-time basis, and meet the March 15 financial aid application priority date. Financial aid recipients must make satisfactory academic progress to maintain award eligibility. Information about financial aid application procedures and standards for academic progress can be obtained from the Financial Aid Office. Recipients must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and must meet minimum enrollment requirements to maintain award eligibility.

Financial Support

Limited financial support is also available through research fellowships to participants in sponsored research or other research projects. Fellowship support can qualify for a waiver of non-resident status for tuition purposes. For fellowship and assistantship eligibility, students should contact the academic departments. Recipients must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and must meet minimum enrollment requirements to maintain award eligibility.

The publication Graduate Assistantships Guide, available from the Graduate School, provides additional information.

Graduate Assistantships

Teaching and Research Assistantships can be available based on merit qualifications. Teaching assistants perform assigned instructional duties under the supervision of a faculty member. Research assistantships are highly variable and usually involve assisting a faculty member in the accomplishment of certain research projects. The total of all on-campus student employment is limited to 20 hours per week or less. The application form is available at academic departments and colleges, and should be completed by the student and submitted to the academic department of the student’s major. The Graduate Assistantships Guide provides detailed information on eligibility, benefits, and procedures for appointments and is available at the Graduate School; http://www.utep.edu/graduate (http://www.utep.edu/graduate/). Recipients must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and must meet minimum enrollment requirements to maintain award eligibility.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Tuition Assistance Opportunities

The Texas Education Coordinating Board administers various tuition assistance programs including programs for teachers and vocational nursing students. Further information about these programs may be obtained by viewing Title 19, Chapter 22 of the Texas Administrative Code, (https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=2&ti=19/) or by visiting the Office of Financial Aid.

Criminal Background Checks

This policy applies to all University or contracted employment positions, whether full-time, part-time or temporary, faculty, staff, or student positions, determined to be security sensitive by the University in accordance with Texas Education Code § 51.215(c) and Texas Government Code § 411.094(a) (2), as those sections can be amended from time to time.
Student Employment (Federal College Work-Study Program)
The Federal College Work-Study Program provides jobs for students who have documented financial need and wish to earn part of their educational expenses while going to school. Jobs cannot exceed 19 hours per week at both on-campus and off-campus worksites; jobs range from clerical to research. Student employees are paid at the prevailing minimum wage rate as prescribed by federal law. Both graduate and undergraduate students demonstrating financial need are eligible for participation in this program; full-time enrollment is required. Participants must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and must meet minimum enrollment requirements to maintain award eligibility. International, second-degree, and certification students, as well as unclassified graduates, are not eligible for the Work-Study Program. Participants must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and must meet minimum enrollment requirements to maintain award eligibility.

For more information, please visit http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=47768.

Additional Employment Opportunities
Information about other forms of employment which can include the Cooperative Education Program, Internships, summer employment, or part-time employment are available in the Career Services Office, Union West Building. Participants must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and must meet minimum enrollment requirements to maintain award eligibility.