Financial Information

Master's degree programs vary considerably in the extent to which they are eligible for financial support from the Graduate School or degree program. Typical awards for day students include scholarships for part or all of their tuition charges. Part-time employment and student loans are possible sources of support. Students in some master's programs may be able to obtain work as an instructional aide.

Financial Support

Tuition Scholarships

Scholarships to cover part or all the costs of tuition are available to both new and continuing students. Since perception of academic merit is the sole criterion for the award of tuition scholarships, they are not subject to taxation under federal tax law at this time.

Loans

Federally underwritten loans are another resource for students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Unsubsidized Stafford loans can be arranged for graduate students. Applicants for these loans are required to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The Graduate School determines eligibility and processes loan applications for all full-time master's students in daytime programs. For more information about applying for loans, please visit the Graduate School’s Financial Information (http://graduateschool.wustl.edu/prospective_students/financial-information) pages.

Instructional Aides

These are awarded to eligible students based on curricular needs of departments and programs and are not guaranteed in advance. Students can be assigned to assist a faculty member in teaching a course. The duties of instructional aides vary widely across the disciplines. They may include assisting faculty in the preparation, instruction and grading of an undergraduate course, in monitoring the laboratory segment of an undergraduate course, or in tutorial responsibilities.

Financial Costs

Tuition Charges and Refunds

The maximum tuition fee is the equivalent of 9 semester hours. Students who enroll for 9 or more hours per semester are automatically regarded as full-time students and are charged a flat full-time rate. Students enrolled for fewer than 9 units are charged on a per-unit basis. The tuition rate is subject to annual change.

Requests for refund of tuition paid by a student who is withdrawing from a specific course should be submitted in writing to the Graduate School registrar. The last date of class attendance is ordinarily used in determining the amount that can be refunded. Students withdrawing within the first two weeks of classes will receive a full refund; those withdrawing before the end of the fourth week pay 20 percent; those withdrawing before the end of the eighth week pay 40 percent. There is no refund after the eighth week of the semester except for reasons of health. Such reasons must be certified or verified by Student Health Services, in which case the university will make a prorated refund of tuition if notice of withdrawal is received before the end of the 12th week of the semester. Students who have had their full tuition remitted for them by their school or by a third party will not receive any refund.

Health Fees

All full-time students in Arts & Sciences are charged a mandatory health fee. This fee gives access to Student Health Services. In addition, they must either enroll in the student health insurance plan or present proof of comparable coverage. Both the health fee and the health insurance premium are subject to annual change.