

UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL AID

All students interested in financial aid of any type must apply through the **Office of Student Financial Assistance** (Building 21, Room 120) 474-2400). This includes applications for scholarships, fellowships, assistantships, Non-Florida tuition waivers, and loans. Applicants to our graduate programs in Counseling, General and Industrial/Organizational Psychology will be mailed financial aid applications upon acceptance to the university. Minority students are especially encouraged to apply for any minority scholarships for which they are eligible, as well as the awards outlined below. Please inform the Financial Aid Coordinator if you would like to be considered for **Minority Graduate Student Fellowships or Assistantships**, your name will then be forwarded to the College Dean for consideration.

The Psychology Department Financial Aid Coordinator administers a limited amount of financial aid. The Financial Aid Coordinator makes nominations concerning the following awards:

Pace Scholarship (*\$100 - \$1,000 per academic year*) - awarded to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students based on academic achievement.

Undergraduate applicants must be continuing, full-time (12 sh), degree seeking undergraduates, who have completed all Lower Division requirements (e.g., CLAST, Gordon Rule, General Education, and Foreign Language), have a minimum major GPA of 3.0, cumulative GPA of at least 2.0, and are not receiving any other UWF scholarship.

Graduate applicants must be NEW OR CONTINUING students taking at least 6 graduate semester hours, be admitted as degree-seeking and must remain in good standing throughout the award (GPA of 3.0). Selection decisions are made based on a review of applicants' academic performance, field and research experiences, ethnic background, and nominations by faculty members. The department notifies students of receipt of this award after the College Dean's approval.

Graduate Merit Scholarship (*\$100 - \$1,000 per academic year*) - awarded to outstanding degree-seeking graduate students based on academic achievement. Applicants must be admitted to the University in good standing, **be enrolled for 6 or more hours of graduate credit during each semester they receive the award, and have a minimum GPA of 3.5 per departmental requirement**. Selection decisions are made based on a review of applicants' academic performance, field and research experience, and nominations by faculty members. The department notifies students of receipt of this award after the College Dean's approval.

Non-Florida Tuition Grant (allows non-Florida residents to pay in-state tuition) - awarded to outstanding graduate applicants and returning students based on prior academic achievement and potential to excel in graduate school. Applicants must be admitted to the University in good standing and have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Nominations to the College of Arts and Sciences are made based on a review of applicants' academic performance. It is recommended that out-of-state students apply for Florida residency status during the first year of graduate school. The College Dean's office notifies students of award.

Graduate Assistantship (5-10 hours per week; \$500 - \$1,000 per semester) - awarded to outstanding graduate students. Graduate assistants are required to work from 5-10 hours per week during the semester of the award. Typical graduate assistant duties include holding office hours, copying student handouts, grading homework assignments, assisting in labs, and answering student questions about course material. Applicants must be admitted to the University in good standing and have a minimum GPA of 3.0. Selections are made based on applicants' knowledge of course content, financial need, and faculty needs/requests. Graduate assistants who work at least 10 hours per week and are enrolled for at least 3 credits are also eligible for Matriculation Fee Waivers, which reduce tuition fees per credit hour. The department notifies students of receipt of this award after the College Dean's approval.

Graduate Fellowship (Varying amounts) There is no work involved in this award. Students must be degree-seeking, and must be in good standing with the University (GPA 3.0 or better). Often, these awards are very limited and available only in the summer. The department notifies students of receipt of this award after the College Dean's approval.

In order to be considered for any of these awards you must first complete the **Scholarship/Fellowship/Assistantship/Non-Florida Tuition Grant application form** for the current academic year. **The form is available through the Office of Student Financial Assistance and should be updated each Spring. That means you need to apply EACH SPRING for any type of award.**

Applicants for graduate awards should also complete the **Psychology Department Financial Aid Request form** available in the Psychology Department Office.

PLEASE NOTE: RETURNING STUDENTS SHOULD PRE-REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR THE FORTHCOMING SEMESTER TO ENSURE AWARD ELIGIBILITY. AWARDS ARE GIVEN TO STUDENTS ONLY WHEN THEY REGISTER FOR THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS OUTLINED ABOVE.