

MLIS Admitted Student Funding Handout

February 2024

[The Graduate Funding Information Service \(GFIS\)](#) is located in the Research Commons in Allen Library. GFIS assists current and admitted graduate students and faculty in their search for tuition, research, conference, travel, and dissertation funding. GFIS reviews best practices in order to equip students with the tools, resources, and knowledge to navigate the funding process. GFIS offers 30-45 minute consultations via zoom or in person Mondays and Wednesdays in the Research Commons.

Contact: Aaliyah Davis , gfis@uw.edu. Schedule a one-on-one [consultation with me here](#).

Types of Funding

[Assistantships](#)- Research Assistant (RA), Teaching Assistant (TA), and Graduate Staff Assistant (GSA)

- Jobs within the university– may be with your department, a different academic department, a research center, or administrative office
- Two types: 50% full time equivalent (FTE) and less than 50% FTE
 - 50% FTE includes salary, tuition waiver, and insurance- usually requires full time enrollment
 - less than 50% FTE has a higher salary in lieu of tuition waiver
- Where to find
 - [Your Department!](#)
 - [UW GFIS Site](#) - Some highlighted funding and assistantship opportunities
 - [Handshake](#) - (Requires UW NetID login, not available until paying [STF](#)) - Filter by campus jobs

[Scholarships, Fellowships, and Grants](#)

- Most deadlines fall September-March for awards that pay out the *following* school year
- Where to look:
 - Your department
 - The iSchool has three scholarships that current students can apply for through a simple Microsoft form application. Application is open around Feb 1 and due March 1. You'll receive an email from Jess, Lizzie, or Jennifer with the guidelines once it's open
 - [Illinois](#) – Good public database, easy to use
 - [UW database](#) – Search tool that includes UW-specific and external opportunities
 - [CareerOneStop](#) - Most opportunities listed; maintained by US Department of Labor
 - Undocumented-specific Funding Resources: [Immigrants Rising Fellowships](#) & [Immigrants Rising Scholarships](#) lists

Navigating Databases- Search Terms

1. Awards: conferencing, fellowship, internship
 - a. Synonyms: scholarships, research, travel grants

2. Degree: MLIS, master's degree
 - a. Synonyms: master's, predoctoral*, graduate
3. Discipline(s): library sciences, archival studies, law librarianship
 - a. Synonyms/specifics: indigenous knowledge management, community archives, digital humanities, rare book preservation, cultural material cataloguing, digital media asset management, critical data studies, metadata & taxonomies
4. Identities, salient and secondary, incl: race, ethnicity, cultural heritage, national origin, sexuality, gender, religion or lack thereof, affiliations, and hobbies
 - a. specifics: first generation, Black/ African-American (minority), military/veteran family, LGBTQ, Muslim

How do I get started?

It's always great to get a head start on your funding search. Academic funding runs on a 6-12 month timeline, with most applications due October-March. Here's an overview of how to work with the funding timeline

- Now – March 2024
 - Scholarships, fellowships, and grant deadlines for 2024-2025 school year
- Now-September 2024
 - Apply for Assistantships for Autumn 2024
 - Organize scholarship search and begin preparing applications for for 2025-26 school year
- September 2024 – January 2025
 - Assistantships for winter and spring quarters
 - Finalize and turn in applications

MLIS Specific Opportunities

- [American Library Association](#)- **Deadline March 1**
The ALA has many scholarships available to current and incoming MLIS students. You only need to complete one application, and can apply to multiple opportunities you are a good fit for.
- [Society of American Archivists](#) - **Deadline Feb 28**
- [The Association of Moving Image Archivists Scholarships](#) **Deadline May 17**
- [Washington Library Association](#)- **Anticipated Deadline June 30**
Similar to ALA; WLA has multiple scholarships that only require a single application. Must be a WLA member
- [Music Library Association: Diversity Scholarship](#)- **Anticipated Deadline July**

Professional Organizations

Consider professional associations and organizations within your discipline or related disciplines. Some professional associations and organizations may offer yearly scholarships, travel awards, and/or research opportunities to graduate students. Below are lists of LIS related professional organizations managed by iSchools at other universities.

- San Jose State University: <https://ischool.sjsu.edu/professional-associations>
- USC: <https://libguides.usc.edu/libsci/associations>
- UNC: <https://sils.unc.edu/student-orgs/professional-chapters>