



Graduate School

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

In support of our continuing effort to retain the brightest and most diverse cohort of graduate students, the Graduate School is again offering ***Graduate Retention and Inclusion Grants*** during the 2023 – 2024 academic year. The goal of this program is to encourage the development and implementation of initiatives promoting graduate student retention, inclusion, and belonging. These funds can be used to pay for a variety of retention and inclusion initiatives, including but not limited to:

- Professional development and networking opportunities for graduate students (e.g., meetings with invited scholars, peer mentoring initiatives)
- Community-building activities to promote graduate student engagement (e.g., book club, discussion panel)
- Faculty development and training

FRIENDLY REMINDER: These funds may not be used to purchase food and must be used during the current fiscal year (2023 – 2024). Please be sure to check with your Business Manager that what you are proposing is financially feasible. Lastly, requests must be in whole dollar amounts.

The maximum award allocation that will be provided is \$5,000.

Academic units interested in applying for *Graduate Retention and Inclusion Grants* should submit a proposal in pdf format by **Friday, October 20, 2023, at 12:00pm**. *Departments with multiple programs and/or degree objectives should submit a single request*. Here is the link to the online application: https://gradapply.uga.edu/register/grad_enroll_grant

Proposals that include the retention of students from populations underrepresented/underserved within the discipline* and/or at least \$500 in matching funds will be favorably considered. All submissions must include the signatures of the Department Head/Director, Graduate Coordinator, and your Dean. ***Without these signatures, your application will not be considered complete and will not be evaluated.***

Proposals should be limited to three pages in length that:

- 1) Clearly describes the ***initiative(s)***

- 2) Provide a **detailed description of estimated costs** and justification
- 3) Explain how the initiative(s) are expected to grow a more inclusive culture and/or promote graduate student retention and success
- 4) Identify and explain the **assessment measures** that you will employ in fall 2024 to determine the effectiveness of the initiative(s).

Assessment of Previous Year's Initiative

If you received a *Graduate Retention and Inclusion Grant* during the 2022 – 2023 cycle, please **submit a one to two-page evaluation using the assessment measures identified in your submission from last year** and include a copy of the completed table below with your specific data. For information on enrollment data, please visit the [Graduate School dashboard](#) on the webpage of the Office of Institutional Research.

	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023
Total number of Enrolled Students			
Total number of URM Students			

Assessments are due **Friday, October 20, 2023, at 12:00pm**. If you created any new materials from this grant, please include a copy. New submissions will not be reviewed until your assessment from last year has been received.

Funding awards will be allocated in November 2023.

Please contact Dr. Lisa Sperling, Senior Director of Recruitment and Diversity Initiatives, at 706-542-6413 or sperling@uga.edu, with any questions or concerns.

*Underrepresented/underserved within the discipline may include personal characteristics such as race/ethnicity, gender, first-generation in higher education, non-traditional age, disability status, veteran status, rurality, and/or a self-identified aspect of a uniquely diverse background. *Please provide justification for how underrepresented/underserved status is appropriately defined within your discipline.*