Financial Assistance and Scholarships

**Graduate Assistantships**

Assistantships are awarded to students on a competitive basis. Students are selected on the basis of their academic record, their commitment to the profession, and their experience. Assistantships are awarded to currently enrolled degree students for either a semester or an academic year based on the needs of the College.

Full time graduate assistants work 20 hours a week and receive tuition remission for up to 10 hours of coursework per regular semester and receive a stipend. Occasionally, assistants can work during the summer sessions for a proportional stipend and tuition exemption. More information about Graduate Assistantships is available in the [Graduate School Catalog](#).

Students should watch for notices of assistantships from other academic and administrative departments for which they may be qualified. These may include residence hall positions, teaching assistantships, and research assistantships. Application instructions are included in these notices. Students should also visit the [University’s job website](#) for additional postings for graduate assistantships.

Given the academic background required for most assistantships, new students may not be competitive in their first semester. Completion of the core courses and participation in College activities will enhance competitiveness in subsequent semesters. For additional information about assistantships, contact the Student Services Office. Also attend iSchool events and network with faculty and staff to learn more about possible assistantships.

To apply for assistantships, students must fill out the Application for Graduate Assistantship form. This form can be downloaded as a [Word](#) or [PDF](#) file.

**Information Sources**

A limited number of fellowships and assistantships are available for students enrolled in the College. The Student Services Office shares information with students via the [iSchool website](#), the ISCHOOLDISCUSSION listserv, and the ISCHOOLANNOUNCEMENTS listserv.

[Financial Assistance for Library Education (ALA)](#) lists assistantships, fellowships, and other financial grants available nationwide, including at the University of Maryland. In addition, a complete listing of available American Library Association (ALA) Scholarships is available [online](#).
Financial Assistance and Scholarships

Scholarships and Awards

The College shares information with students about various scholarships awarded by outside sponsors. Monitor the scholarship page on the financial aid website (http://ischool.umd.edu/content/financial-aid), the ISCHOOLANNOUNCEMENTS listserv, and the ISCHOOLDISCUSSION listserv for announcements of competition for these awards.

Public libraries and organizations in the region and at the national level offer scholarships, fellowships, and grants for graduate study in librarianship by national organizations. Students should be aware of scholarships supported by outside organizations and watch for announcements throughout the academic year.

Maryland State Scholarships

Maryland State Scholarships, including the Senatorial Scholarship, the Delegate Scholarship, and others, are awarded by the Maryland Higher Education Commission to Maryland State residents (based upon your permanent address). The Awards have varying application, selection, and renewal criteria based upon need, academic merit, or a combination of the two. All state scholarships will credit directly to your university account.
Submit the FAFSA, the federal processing center by March 1 for consideration of the state scholarships. However, it is also suggested that you contact your State Senator and/or State Delegate (based upon your permanent residence) for consideration for the Senatorial and Delegate Scholarships. You may contact the Maryland Higher Education Commission for further information.

Need-based Financial Aid

Loans
The Office of Student Financial Aid (301-314-9000) offers information about Guaranteed Student Loans, National Direct Student Loans, and other forms of financial aid. Located in Room 0102, Lee Building, this Office can provide necessary information and materials.

Work-Study Program
The University operates a College Work-Study Program, which offers part-time opportunities for students with a determined financial need. An effort is made to match work assignments with a student’s interests and career goals. The Office of Student Financial Aid can provide students with the necessary applications and forms for this program.

Employment
The ISCHOOLDISCUSSION and ISCHOOLANNOUNCEMENTS listservs often contain postings of part-time positions that are appropriate for graduate students. In selecting part-time work, students should keep in mind the type of position that may complement their studies and serve as a pertinent entry on their resume. If one wishes to apply for work at McKeldin Library or other libraries in the University system (including the Hornbake Library), apply to the personnel office in McKeldin Library. Other part-time work listings may be found through the University Career Center, Room 3100, Hornbake Building, although these may be less appropriate for students in the College of Information Studies.