



Student Affairs Fee Advisory Board

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Budget Summary

To be completed annually by each department.

Please attach Funding Request Forms for each proposed increase.

Department:	Graduate and Professional Student Government	UAF Account #	237118
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Department Budget History:

	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027
Total Operating Budget	\$166,045**	\$165,913**	\$128,821**	\$ 128,821
Total Current UAF Allocation	\$116,187	\$125,697	\$128,821	
UAF Increases Requested	\$28,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
UAF Increases Funded	\$11,800	\$0	\$0	
Total End-of-Year Reserve Balance Across All Operating Accounts	\$40,216*	\$80,897	\$75,000 (Projected)	\$70,000 (Projected)

**We have shifted the methodology in preparing these forms. Previously, the total end-of-year reserve balances provided only included the operating accounts. Moving forward we will include the end-of-year balances across all accounts to better align with the information provided to Strategic Budget Council and the Board of Regents.*

***You'll notice a drastic decrease in the operating budget between FY25 and FY26. We received instruction from the budget office to provide budgets for only the accounts which we budget on, resulting in a decrease.*

Please provide a reserve spending plan if ending FY2025 reserves exceed University requirements.

Of the \$80,897; \$35,476 can be spent solely on Student Research Week, *these funds are brought in by campus partners*. \$34,278 can only be expensed against the GPSG President and SRW Directors wages, these funds are provided directly from the Graduate & Professional School. Of the total operating funds, there is \$11,143.00 unallocated funds. GPSG will strategically use its additional \$11,143.00 reserves to strengthen programs tied to Scholarship, Advocacy, and Community. Student leaders will seek to identify opportunities to fund one time support initiatives to expand Student Research Week, Grad Camp, Stand out and Succeed, and advocacy initiatives, while also reserving a portion for unanticipated needs. This approach ensures sustainable growth, responsive programming, and lasting impact on the graduate and professional student experience.

UAF Increase Request History & FY2027 Summary:

Program, Service, or Operation Requested	Amount Requested	SAFAB Recommended? (Y/N)	University/VPASA Funded (Y/N)
FY2025			
No increases requested.	\$0		

FY2026			
No increases requested.	\$0		
FY2027 Proposal Summary (Prioritized)			
No increases requested.	\$0		

Additional Questions: *(to assist the Board when informing the student body about stewardship of the University Advancement Fee)*

If you received additional funding in the last 2 years, please describe or explain the success or shortcomings of those new resources.

Additional funding has not been received in the last 2 years.

What do you see as your department's financial priorities in the next 3 – 5 years (FY2027-FY2031)?

The GPSG's financial priorities center around the guiding pillars of Advocacy, Community, and Scholarship. The financial priorities are based on programming efforts and pushing for change in issues graduate and professional students face around these tenets.

1. Scholarship: The GPSG provides professional development opportunities for graduate students, coordinating speakers who focus on graduate life and professional growth—a service well-received by the graduate community. The GPSG embraces the scholarship tenant by supporting opportunities to present research through Student Research Week and engage in development to help students establish themselves as innovators in their respective fields.

2. Advocacy: The GPSG grounds its purpose in advocacy. As the voice for graduate and professional students, the GPSG strives to understand constituent issues and barriers that limit the graduate and professional student experience and work toward change with university administration. The GPSG strives to be a part of the solution by cultivating space for students to work with the administration and understand the complexities of situations at hand. Further, the organization strives to lobby for change on global issues, having previously sent representatives to Washington, D.C., to engage with senators and congress. By establishing communication with national, state, and local policymakers, GPSG strives to amplify the voices of graduate students. Additionally, GPSG has formed a coalition with other SEC universities and their graduate student governments to address concerns nationwide through legislation, administrative meetings, and other initiatives. Critical issues, such as the growing need for mental health services among graduate and international students, affordable housing, and pay remain a priority for the GPSG.

3. Community: The GPSG aims to foster a sense of community for graduate and professional students at Texas A&M by strengthening collaboration across departments and disciplines. GPSG seeks to ensure that all graduate students feel welcome by partnering with various graduate organizations to promote inclusive participation in campus events. The GPSG understands the importance of fostering relationships that promote community to enhance the student experience. The GPSG also understands that through community and relationship building issues are identified and problems are solved. Thus, the GPSG is committed to using programmatic and advocacy efforts to create spaces where graduate and professional students feel they can

connect and belong to a greater group.

The GPSG plans to use its funding to continue and hopefully grow in advancing the graduate student experience through the following:

1. Student Research Week (SRW) (scholarship tenant) - offers all students engaged in research the opportunity to compete in poster and oral sessions, presenting their work to expert judges. Competitors receive valuable feedback and can win various specialty or subject area awards. SRW also provides professional development sessions designed to help students translate their research from the classroom to the job market. The GPSG is actively working to expand SRW's reach to include more graduate participants and eventually involve satellite and system partners. In 2024, SRW had 792 competitors on the main campus, including 579 undergraduates and 213 graduate students.

2. Grad Camp (community tenant) - introduces the traditions, culture, and core values of Texas A&M University and instills the Aggie spirit in the incoming graduate and professional students. We discuss the importance of character development and contribution to our fields and to the university. Most importantly, we build community by fostering interaction between graduate and professional students. Grad Camp connects students to resources across campus.

3. Stand Out and Succeed (advocacy and community tenants)– is a professional development series that helps prepare graduate students for their next steps, post academia. This event started in 2023-2024 and the GPSG intends to continue growing this series, offering a variety of general guidance and more niche opportunities to support research and practitioner focused students. In 2024-2025, GPSG expanded the series and hosted one kick off event that brought key partners from the Career Center, VP of Research, and Academic sector to provide ted-talk style overviews on certain topics. Following the kickoff event, GPSG hosted “bring your own research” events as a part of the series. These events further promoted learning about research and scholarship. In FY24 and 25, the majority of students who completed the event assessment reported they found the speakers were able to provide new perspectives that were helpful to them. Additionally, the majority shared they were able to identify skills that will help them navigate professional development opportunities. The feedback supports the learning objectives of Stand out and Succeed, thus, GPSG feels compelled to continue offering this education and outreach.

4. Roundtables (advocacy and community tenants) – create opportunities for graduate students and leaders of graduate organizations to meet with administration to communicate about pertinent issues graduate students face and create solutions to complex issues. An example of advocacy that resulted from roundtable discussions is the graduate student stipend committee. The students communicated with administration, formed a working committee who devoted energy to understanding the complex problem and collecting data to then work with administration on change to support the overall graduate student experience. The Roundtables are a staple event and are wanted by university administration. This creates pathways for critical conversations. Just this last year, the roundtables have promoted positive interactions and conversations that have led to positive change around financial transparency for graduate pay.

5. GPSG allocates a portion of its funds for operational usage, like promotional items when presenting at New Student Conference Events, Graduate and Professional School Orientations, and other resource tables around campus. Further, GPSG allocates a portion of dollars to be used on ad hoc initiatives that may be identified throughout the year, depending on the climate and need; nonetheless, spending is aligned with the tenants of the organization to ensure graduate and professional students are being served in the best ways possible.

	Total Financial Impact:
How many reclassifications did you have approved in FY2025?	0
How many equity adjustments did you have approved in FY2025?	0
How many one-time merit increases did you have approved in FY2025?	0
How many hiring adjustments did you have approved in FY2025?	0
What positions were approved to eliminate in FY2025?	0
What new positions did you create in FY2025?	0

Additional comments, special considerations, etc.

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SAFAB Comments/Notes: