



Graduate School

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

In support of our continuing effort to retain graduate students, the Graduate School is again offering ***Student Success & Well-Being Grants*** for the 2026 – 2027 academic year. The goal of this program is to encourage the development and implementation of innovative, impactful, and sustainable initiatives promoting graduate student success and well-being with the Graduate School providing the seed funding for the pilot year. These funds can be used to pay for a variety of 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 clubs, discussion panels, well-being workshops, group activities through the Ramsey Center, a dedicated service day of volunteering, etc.)
- Faculty development and trainings

Please see our new [Student Success & Well-Being Toolbox](#), which provides information specific to this grant as well as best practices and resources for faculty and staff for each stage of the graduate student lifecycle. Additionally, you can also visit [GradUP](#), the Graduate School's comprehensive web-based resource designed to support the academic, professional, and personal success of our graduate students for resources and ideas. Lastly, please save the date for an informational webinar with previous winners and campus partners on **Friday, September 11 at 10:00am** via Zoom.

To date, the Graduate School has allocated \$161,756 in seed grants through this initiative.

FRIENDLY REMINDER: These funds may not be used to purchase food, pay a salary/stipend, nor as a one-time lump sum (e.g., gift cards, honorariums, facilitation fees) to students, staff, or faculty. Additionally, funds must be used during the current fiscal year (2026 – 2027). 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 **\$4,000**.

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 build an academic or program culture with an emphasis on the well-being of students, faculty, and staff and/or promote graduate student success
- 4) Identify and explain the ***assessment measures*** that you will employ to determine the effectiveness of the initiative(s).

Proposals that are innovative, sustainable, and impactful and that include the components listed above as well as at least \$500 in matching funds will be favorably considered. Funding requests for initiatives that have been funded in prior grant cycles will receive lower priority. All submissions must include the following signatures: the Department Head/Director, Director of Graduate Studies, and the Office of the Dean of your school or college either listed directly on the submission or as a separate document. ***Without these signatures, your application will not be considered complete and will not be evaluated.***

Academic units interested in applying for ***Student Success & Well-Being Grants*** should submit a proposal in pdf format by **Wednesday, September 30, 2026**. *Departments with multiple programs and/or degree objectives should submit a single request.* Please submit your request from the Student Success & Well-Being section of the Recruit / Retain tab of your [**Program Coordinator Portal**](#).

Funding awards will be allocated in October 2026.

Please contact Dr. Lisa Sperling, Director of Student Success & Well-Being, at 706-542-6413 or sperling@uga.edu, with any questions or concerns.