

FUNDING RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PENN GSE ED.D. STUDENTS

FINE PRINT: *Ed.D. students wrote this guide to assist you in planning your enrollment in one of Penn GSE's traditional, non-executive, Ed.D. programs, and although it has been reviewed by GSE staff, it is not a substitute for professional advice. This guide is not exhaustive; it attempts to address the most frequently asked questions of admissions and financial aid personnel. Individual students may have circumstances that vary from the general information contained in this guide. The information displayed, referenced, or alluded to in this guide is subject to change at any time without notice.*

FULL-TIME ED.D. STUDENT FACT SHEET

COURSEWORK OVERVIEW (YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2):

GSE promises full-time EdD students funding for one academic year. Second-year funding is possible if resources are available. Funding includes:

- Tuition for up to three (3) Course Units per semester in the fall and spring
- General Fee
- Clinical Fee.
- On-campus Pottruck Gym membership if enrolled in a minimum of 3-course units per semester and charged the full-time general fee
- Coverage for the Penn Student Insurance Plan for the student- not dependents.
- 50% subsidy on Penn Dental Insurance

Students are responsible for any tuition and fees charged beyond 3 CUs per semester and are not guaranteed funding for summer. They must secure funding for these items from their research supervisor, personal resources, or other financial aid.

Year One and Two: Coursework:

*General Fees:	*Cost per Credit/Course:	*Health Insurance	*Gym Membership:	*Dental Insurance
Financial Aid & Tuition/ Traditional format programs	Financial Aid & Tuition/ Traditional format programs	Penn Student Insurance Plan	Included in the full-time general fee rate	Penn Student Insurance Plan
Note: Student Health Services may waive health insurance if you have proof of external health insurance. Enrollment in gym membership and dental insurance is optional.				

DISSERTATION STATUS OVERVIEW (YEAR 3+):

Dissertation status for Ed.D. students officially begins when confirmed by the Registrar. All coursework must be completed, and you must e-mail the Registrar (gse-sro@gse.upenn.edu) and ask to be registered for dissertation status. If no funding is available, Ed.D. students are responsible for paying the dissertation fee each semester until they finish their dissertation. Registration is not required during the summer; however, students who plan to use University facilities, take comprehensive or preliminary examinations, hold dissertation hearings, or graduate must register and pay the dissertation tuition.

Year Three and Beyond: Dissertation Status

*General Fees:	*Dissertation Fee	*Health Insurance	*Gym Membership:	*Dental Insurance
N/A	Financial Aid & Tuition/ Traditional format programs	Penn Student Insurance Plan	Membership plans	Penn Student Insurance Plan
Note: Student Health Services may waive health insurance if you have proof of external health insurance. Enrollment in gym membership and dental insurance is optional.				

PART-TIME ED.D. STUDENT FACT SHEET

Coursework Overview:

*General Fees:	*Cost per Credit/Course:	*Health Insurance	*Gym Membership:	*Dental Insurance
Financial Aid & Tuition/ Traditional format programs	Financial Aid & Tuition/ Traditional format programs	N/A	Membership plans	N/A

Part-time Ed.D. students employed full-time at the University can use the tuition remission benefit to pay for classes. Tuition remission is provided for a maximum of two (2) course units per semester (summer, fall, and spring). Visit the [Penn Tuition Benefits page](#) for a comprehensive explanation of tuition benefits for staff and to contact the Tuition Benefits Office.

IRS regulations provide that faculty/staff members enrolled in a program classified at the graduate level may exclude up to \$5,250 for federal income tax, FICA (Social Security Tax), Medicare tax, and city wage tax reporting from your taxable income each calendar year. Any benefit above \$5,250 is treated as taxable income, and the University withholds the taxes from your benefit.

If you are using the tuition benefit for a program classified as a graduate program, any applicable taxes are withheld directly from the benefit using a tax rate prescribed by the IRS, and the net amount is awarded to the student as the benefit. The student will then be left with a balance on his/her student account that must be paid within the deadlines set by the University's Student Financial Services Office. Both the gross tuition amount subject to taxes and the taxes withheld is reported to the IRS on Form W-2 as a part of the faculty or staff member's earnings and taxes paid. The taxpayer is responsible for making appropriate W-4 adjustments if desired. The taxpayer is also responsible for settling his/her tax liability on year-end tax filing.

FAQS:

DOES THE DISSERTATION FEE INCREASE?

Yes. As with tuition costs, the dissertation fee may increase each year. Increases are generally around 3.9% annually.

DO OTHER FEES INCREASE?

Yes. The fees for the General Fee, Student Health Insurance, Clinical Fee, and Gym Memberships are subject to annual increases.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING PAID HOURLY VERSUS AN RA-SHIP? WHEN DOES THIS SWITCH HAPPEN, AND WHO IS USUALLY IMPACTED?

As of 2019, the hourly rate for a doctoral Student Worker is up to a maximum of \$25.00 per hour, and one's total earnings will depend on the rate and number of hours worked. The Research Assistantship is a fixed stipend, paid monthly over nine months (beginning in September), and assumes a twenty hour-per-week apprenticeship. The 2019-20 RA stipend was \$26,961 in total. Contact [Penn GSE Financial Aid](#) in April for current year information. The switch from RA to Student Worker (or vice versa) can occur between the academic year and the summer, since summer work is usually not consistent from one academic year to the next, depending on the source of funding.

CAN WE TAKE ON ADDITIONAL HOURS AT PENN BEYOND OUR 20 HOURS/WEEK AS AN ED.D. STUDENT?

Yes. You can work up to an additional 8.5 hours of work/week more on other projects with approval.

IS THERE A LIMIT TO HOW MANY HOURS WE CAN WORK IN ONE YEAR?

No, not currently.

HOW MUCH IS SUMMER FUNDING IF I GOT IT THROUGH MY ADVISOR OR ELSEWHERE AT PENN?

If a faculty member has funding, then the appointment can be as a Student Worker or Research Assistant – up to a maximum of \$25 per hour, or \$2,995.67 per month for 80 hours each month as of Summer 2020.

WHERE COULD I SAVE MONEY?

Here are some tips that graduate students have compiled:

1. Travel and conference grants:
 - a. GSE student government allocates conference reimbursement for all GSE students. You must apply for this funding, and awards are made during the Fall and Spring semesters. Reimbursements made are subject to the availability of funds.
 - b. GAPSA travel (be as specific as possible about how you saved money and why the conference is essential).
2. Dissertation Grants:
 - a. CURF: <https://www.curf.upenn.edu/find-fellowships>
 - b. AAUW: <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/american-fellowships/af-dissertation-application/>
 - c. Ford: http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/FordFellowships/PGA_171939
 - d. Spencer: <https://naeducation.org/naedspencer-dissertation-fellowship-program/>
 - e. AERA: <http://www.aera.net/Professional-Opportunities-Funding/AERA-Funding-Opportunities>
 - f. NSF: <https://www.nsfgrfp.org/>
 - g. Wenner Gren: <http://www.wennergren.org/programs/dissertation-fieldwork-grants>
3. Housing/Food:
 - a. As a [student housing GA](#), you do not have to pay rent, and you have access to free meals in the dining halls on campus on a limited basis.
 - b. There is free coffee at the Grad Center.
 - c. Take advantage of the free Take Your Professor/TA/Mentor Out to Lunch program
 - d. South Street market: 10% off groceries for students on Thursdays (24th and South)

- e. Italian Market has inexpensive produce
4. Miscellaneous Tips:
- a. Use the PennCard to get student discounts
 - b. \$5 movie tickets at 40th and Walnut Theater on Tuesdays
 - c. Free/cheap stuff on Craigslist (especially during peak move out weeks)
 - d. Extreme discounts on theatre/orchestra/museums when you show up the day of with Penn ID (i.e., \$25 season subscription to Philadelphia orchestra)
 - e. Look out for Philly events (UWISHUNU); sometimes they have free/cheap admission to events
 - f. WanderU (bus/train tickets)
 - g. Supremo (43rd and Walnut) - less expensive than other supermarkets