

# Graduate School Resources in Economics

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## 1 Background

This document is not intended to promote or recommend any doctorate program rather it is merely a resource to help assist in the process of finding a doctoral home in economics. There are various application fee waivers, visitation programs and fellowships which are available and not always utilized. Most of these resources focus on economics but may be helpful to other fields as well. This document consolidates all the information I know and by no means encompasses the universe of resources. If ever in doubt I highly encourage you to contact the graduate school to seek more information on any of these topics. Sometimes individual departments may not be aware of the options the graduate school has to offer. The AEA<sup>1</sup> site for students is a rich resource as well. If you have any additional information please feel free to contact me.

## 2 Application Waivers

Being a member or fellow of various programs can automatically grant you a fee waiver for your application to graduate schools. Members of the PhD Project, McNair Scholars, HBCU students, UC Leads, AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, Project 1000 and others can obtain a fee waiver from some or all graduate schools. Some universities grant fee waivers solely or jointly off of financial need. Be sure to look and see if you qualify for a fee waiver, as the cost of applications can add up.

### **The Big Ten Academic Alliance FreeApp Program**

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<sup>1</sup>Unless specified all links are attached to the name of the program

### 3 Paying for Graduate School

You should keep in mind, that unlike medical or law school, where the debt incurred is assumed to be justified by a high paying job immediately following school or training, this is not necessarily the assumption out of other doctoral programs. The salary range of recent doctoral graduates from economics departments vary widely, and some have higher future earning potential than others. Not all departments offer graduate assistantships to all students for all years, but the graduate school and other outside fellowships and assistantships may be a good resource to alleviate the financial burden of graduate school. Even if you receive an assistantship from your future graduate department, some non-departmental fellowships may offer support in a manner your department does not. Such as covering student fees, health insurance and travel expenses. It can be useful to be awarded a department assistantship as well as an outside fellowship.

### 4 Fellowships

Not all fellowships are created equal. Some can follow you to any institution, to specific institutions or to a particular institution. Applicant deadlines for fellowships vary and are not always the same time as graduate school applications.

#### 4.1 Florida Education Fund - McKnight Fellowship

**Deadline:** January 15

**Who is Eligible:** Racial or ethnic minorities, US citizen or legal permanent resident

**Types of Awards:** Doctoral Program Fellowship (3-5 yrs), Dissertation Fellowship (1 yr)

**Award Amount:** \$15K

**Where:** It can be used at 9 eligible universities in Florida

**Website:** McKnight Fellows

#### 4.2 Ford Fellowship

**Deadline:** Early December

**Who is Eligible:** Racial or ethnic minorities, US citizen or legal permanent resident

**Types of Awards:** Pre-doctoral, Dissertation Fellowship (1 yr)

**Award Amount:** \$20K+

**Website:** Ford Fellows

### **4.3 Southern Regional Education Board**

**Deadline:** March 31

**Who is Eligible:** Racial or ethnic minorities, US citizen or legal permanent resident

**Types of Awards:** Doctoral Program Fellowship (3-5 yrs), Dissertation Fellowship (1 yr)

**Award Amount:** \$20K

**Where:** It can be used at eligible universities in 16 member states are: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

**Website:** SREB

### **4.4 Other Fellowship & Funding Opportunities**

**American Association of University Women**

**National Institute of Health**

**Western Regional Graduate Program**

**Truman Public Service Foundation** (For undergrads)

**FAMU Feeder**

### **4.5 Funding Databases**

**Cornell Graduate School Funding Resources** (Cornell has a very extensive data base with various types of fellowships and funding sources.)

**American Economic Association Funding Resources** (The AEA has a list of various types of fellowships and funding sources on their website.)

**MSU Library - Grants**

**Michigan Education Association - Awards and Grants**

## **5 Visitation Programs**

Various graduate schools have programs which support students visiting their campus to learn more about the graduate programs and possibly meet with members of the department of their interest.

**Georgia Tech Focus Program**

**University of Florida Campus Visitation Program**

**Indiana University Commitment to Diversity**

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology CONVERGE**

Vanderbilt University  
Yale University Graduate School  
Other Visitation Programs

## 6 Other Resources

**McNair Scholars** (Apply while in undergrad. Not available at all universities but offers financial support for grad school apps and support throughout grad school.)

**Bridge to Doctorate Programs** (Available at select institutions)

**Institute of Recruitment for Teachers**

**AEA Summer Program** (Prior to a doctoral studies)

**AEA Pipeline Program** (After entering a doctoral program)

**AEA Summer Economics Fellows Program** (After entering a doctoral program)

**The PhD Project**

**University of California Leads Program**

**American Institute for Economic Research Summer Fellowship Program**

**List of Summer Fellowship Opportunities**

**AEA Resources for Undergrads Little Africa**

**SACNAS - Advancing Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science**