



UNM

SCHOOL of PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION

Graduate Assistantship Policy

The SPA has several sources of financial support for graduate students including a limited number of graduate assistantships (GA), tuition fellowships, and scholarships.

Applications are accepted until May 1st for the Fall semester and October 1st for the Spring semester. An application is available at the School of Public Administration website- <http://spa.unm.edu/students/scholarshipinfo.php>

The Graduate Assistantships normally require 20 hours of work for a full time assistantship. The GA will typically help faculty and the SPA in their research activities.

The GA stipend depends on whether the award is full-time or less. The current stipend levels are available from the main office. Full-time awards include up to 9 hours of tuition, while half-time awards include 6 hours of tuition. Students receiving full time financial aid are required to maintain at least a 9-hour approved course enrollment. Students on half time aid are required to maintain a 6-hour course enrollment. Financial support is dependent on the availability of funds.

Criteria for awarding Graduate Assistantships include:

1. Assessment of the student's academic record.
2. SPA needs

The awards are usually made for one semester with renewal consideration each subsequent semester for up to two years. Renewal of the contract is not automatic. At the end of each semester, each GA's performance is evaluated.

Evaluation Criteria include:

- Maintaining full time status in the program, (i.e., a minimum of 9 approved credit hours per semester).
- Academic performance.
- Involvement in professional activities, (i.e., attendance at professional seminars, attending conferences, etc).