

COMMUNICATION ARTS, PHD

FUNDING

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GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

[The Bursar's Office provides information about tuition and fees associated with being a graduate student. Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information is available from the Graduate School.](#)

Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

Beginning graduate students in Communication Arts receive 6 consecutive semesters of guaranteed support if they are entering to begin PhD coursework or 10 consecutive semesters of guaranteed support if they are entering to begin MA coursework and then continue through PhD coursework.

Guaranteed funding comes in the form of teaching assistantships (TA), project assistantships (PA), lectureships (LSA), and fellowships. The guaranteed funding package for graduate students includes full tuition remission, biweekly stipend, and benefits eligibility, including health insurance. To maintain their funding guarantee, students must remain in good standing (see Comm Arts Graduate Handbook section section: VII. SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (<https://commarts.wisc.edu/graduate/graduate-handbook/satisfactory-academic-progress/>)).

SENIOR LECTURER APPOINTMENTS

As students gain experience in the program and with our courses, they can be assigned as course lecturers. Students are assigned to SLA by faculty each semester based on need.

GRADUATE SCHOOL-SUPPORTED FELLOWSHIPS

A limited number of fellowships are available funded through the graduate school. All students are considered for fellowships at the time of application and during the course of their studies; no separate application is necessary. These fellowships may be for terms from one semester to two years and include tuition remission and benefits including health insurance. Additional awards for dissertators (e.g. The Dana-Allen Award) are available through a competitive application process.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

The Department of Communication Arts is pleased to be able to grant yearly monetary awards to graduate students based on scholastic performance. Nominations for the awards are generated by the faculty in the four areas of graduate study. To be eligible for consideration, graduate students must be continuing in the program, must be making satisfactory progress toward their degree, and must not have any incompletes on their transcript. The amount and number of awards vary from year to year depending on funds available. For full details on department awards, please see the department's funding and financial information page (<https://commarts.wisc.edu/graduate/graduate-handbook/funding-finance-resource-information/>).

RESEARCH AWARDS

The Department of Communication Arts also offers funding during the course of a student's studies to support research activities. For example, students have access to:

- *Elliott Dissertation Scholarships*: Given to students who have successfully defended their dissertation proposal, this award is designed to facilitate progress on researching and writing the dissertation.
- *Betty and Vance Kepley Research Awards*: Awarded to one student annually, through a competitive application process, who faces significant research costs for their dissertation project and who proposes transformative ways to conduct research that otherwise would not have been possible.
- *Marilynn R. Baxter Research Awards*: Awarded on a rolling basis to students looking for assistance with research costs associated with a dissertation chapter or other publication.

For full details on department awards, please see the department's funding and financial information page (<https://commarts.wisc.edu/graduate/graduate-handbook/funding-finance-resource-information/>).

CONFERENCE TRAVEL AWARDS

The department provides annual travel stipends for students to present academic papers at conferences. Students not residing in Madison during the semester in which they present at the conference may not be eligible for this funding. For full details on department awards, please see the department's funding and financial information page (<https://commarts.wisc.edu/graduate/graduate-handbook/funding-finance-resource-information/>).