

MPA Financial Aid Opportunities

Graduate Assistantships-Graduate Assistants help a professor with teaching and research and are a unique way for pre-service students to gain valuable experience while working on their MPA. MPA students generally either work in the Dept of Political Science and Public Affairs or in the Public Policy Institute, although some other possibilities may exist on campus. Assistantships currently pay approximately \$7000 for the school year. Graduate Assistants must maintain a work schedule of 20 hours per week but are afforded quite a bit of autonomy and flexibility. No outside employment is allowed. More information can be found at:
<http://www.wcu.edu/graduate/FAQ.html>

Chancellor's Fellowship- With the motivation of timely program completion in mind, well qualified graduate students are selected and required to be registered for a minimum of nine hours each semester. Students are eligible for a second year Fellowship, and a completed application is necessary for consideration. Students are encouraged to submit additional information such as a resume along with the application. The deadline is April 15, and the application can be found here: http://www.wcu.edu/graduate/forms/GS_Fellowship_App.pdf

Study Grants-A Study Grant is a \$300 per semester grant awarded to students based on the merit of their application. There is no work requirement, and students need only to register for at least 3 credit hours each term the Study Grant is in effect. The application form is due to the Graduate School no later than May 15 for the fall semester and November 15 for the spring semester. Students may reapply for a second year of the Study Grant.

NC City/County Manager's Association Scholarship-The N.C. City and County Manager's Association awards an annual \$1800 scholarship to one WCU student. Requirements include North Carolina residency, an interest in a career in local government, and preferably some experience or exposure to local government. The winning candidate is required to attend the Association's meeting in order to receive the award. A resume and cover letter must be submitted to the MPA Program no later than September 31.

City of Asheville/WCU Scholarship-Candidate must be an employee of the City of Asheville. The scholarship is \$250 per semester, and the contact points are Lewis Isaac with the City of Asheville at 259-5759 or Dr. Chris Cooper of WCU. The scholarship is for current students and the deadline is September 15th. Students should submit a resume and cover letter in order to apply.

Kendall W. King Scholarship for International Students-Available to undergraduate as well as graduate students, this fund is intended to provide financial support for worthy and deserving international students. When applying, students may choose to select one or both terms. Primarily to help with the cost of books, the application can be found here-
<http://www.wcu.edu/graduate/documents/KendallKingApplication.doc>-and should be returned to the Graduate School.