

Teaching Assistants and Research Assistants Baseline Stipends – Fiscal Year 2025

UK’s Graduate Stipend and Benefits Committee has updated baseline graduate stipends for fiscal year 2025 for each discipline, following months of data analysis and collaboration with colleges and leadership across campus. In order to minimize the financial impact of rapid increases, no baseline was raised by more than 10%; these baselines will continue to be raised until they match benchmark data for their discipline.

Requiring baseline stipends across campus ensures that every teaching assistant, research assistant and graduate assistant receives competitive compensation, along with their tuition scholarships and health insurance.

Students will learn about any changes to their stipends from their hiring department. UK’s Graduate Stipend and Benefits Committee will reevaluate baseline stipends annually, using national standardized benchmark data from the Oklahoma State University Graduate Stipend Survey.

The baseline stipend amounts for Teaching and Research Assistants, who typically work on a part-time (20-hour-per-week) appointment, were determined based on 9- or 10-month stipend averages to align with instructions related to Oklahoma State University Graduate Stipend Survey and input from peer institutions in order to provide the best benchmark comparisons possible.

In order to calculate a 12-month stipend from the 9- or 10-month baseline stipend amount, please divide the baseline stipend amount by 0.818.

The methodology was established by the UK’s Graduate Stipend and Benefits Committee and will be reviewed annually to coincide with UK’s submission to the Oklahoma State University Graduate Stipend Survey.

****Assumes a 20-hour-per-week**

Department	9- to 10-Month Appointment	12 Month
Agricultural Economics	\$18,167	\$22,209
Animal and Food Sciences	\$18,438	\$22,540
Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering	\$18,586	\$22,271
Center for Student Success	\$19,604	\$23,965
Community and Leadership Development – TA/RA	\$17,471	\$21,358
Community and Leadership Development – GA	\$19,604	\$23,996
Dietetics and Human Nutrition	\$18,208	\$22,259
Entomology	\$22,491	\$27,495
Family Sciences	\$17,159	\$20,976
Forestry and Natural Resources	\$20,841	\$25,478
Horticulture	\$20,059	\$24,522
Plant and Soil Sciences	\$20,059	\$24,522
Plant and Soil Sciences – RCTF	\$20,059	\$24,522
Plant Pathology	\$20,240	\$24,743
School of Human Environmental Sciences	\$17,749	\$21,698
Veterinary Science	\$18,530	\$22,653

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Baseline stipend amount comparisons for Graduate Assistants were more challenging due to differences in definitions across institutions for Graduate Assistants and Graduate Associates, as well as small sample sizes for Graduate Assistant/Associates relative to Teaching and Research Assistants. In addition, Graduate Assistants often work in non-academic units that may employ students from a wide range of disciplines. Given these challenges, UK’s Graduate Stipend and Benefits Committee elected to “roll up” across discipline and rank for comparisons to establish an **overall baseline stipend amount of \$19,604 (\$23,966 for 12 month)** As previously noted, the committee will review the data annually to align with our submission to the Oklahoma State University Graduate Stipend Survey.