



GRADUATE SCHOOL–Financial Aid

The First Step: Applying for Graduate School

Students must be accepted into a degree program before being considered for fellowships or assistantships administered by the University (your order of preference may be indicated on the application). The admissions application consists of a form requesting basic information about you as a candidate, your transcripts, two letters of reference, and the \$35.00 application fee. The departments are responsible for appointing teaching and research assistants and their requirements vary. Contact the specific department for information on requirements and availability of assistantships.

Although it is advisable to apply for financial aid or employment as early as possible, it is also important that your most recent completed grades be available to the selection committees. (Your undergraduate grade point average is computed on the last 60 hours of undergraduate work). If you request it, the Registrar's Office will delay mailing your transcript until after the fall grades are posted.

A number of fellowships and administrative, research, and teaching assistantships are available to qualified graduate students admitted to degree programs. Non-degree students are not eligible for these awards. Recommendations for granting assistantships are handled by the departments. Students interested in obtaining such financial assistance should write directly to the departments in which they expect to do their major work. Academic excellence is the first criterion in the selection, but grade point average is by no means the only measure. The entire application, and particularly the letters of reference guide the judgments of the committees.

*Departmental requirements vary; contact individual departments for additional information.
Graduate students should consult with their advisor before registering for graduate work.*

The Next Step: Financial Aid

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) needs to be completed to be considered for federal student aid. The FAFSA can be completed on the web at www.fafsa.ed.gov and the student can get a federal aid PIN at www.pin.ed.gov so the FAFSA can use electronic signatures. **The SDSU School Code is 003471.** Students must be enrolled at least half-time and in a degree program before financial aid can be processed.

Federal Work-Study and Federal Perkins Loan

Federal Work-Study provides eligible students with employment opportunities, usually at the University or off-campus in public and private, non-profit organizations. The Perkins Loan is a low-interest (five percent) available to graduate students. Limited funds for this program are appropriated by Congress and awarded to the University. To qualify for Federal Work-Study and/or Perkins Loans, students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents, maintain satisfactory academic progress (determined by the Graduate School and the Financial Aid office), and demonstrate financial need as determined by the federal need analysis formula. March 1st is used as a priority FAFSA filing date.

Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP)

This program includes Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans. No student can receive more than the maximum annual Federal Stafford Loan amount during any award year. The award year begins with Summer school and ends on the last day of spring semester. Although the federal government sets the maximum amount you can receive through the Stafford Loan Program, several factors can cause the amount to be adjusted to a lower amount.

The graduate aggregate loan limits total includes any Stafford Loans received during the undergraduate years.

2008 – 2009 Tuition Table for Graduate Students (Per Credit)

Amounts shown here are subject to change by the Board of Regents

Description	State Support plus university fees of \$105.40 per credit	Self-Support (internet courses) includes university fee	Self-Support in Sioux Falls, Pierre, and Rapid City includes university fee
Resident	\$133.70	\$290.65	\$317.40
Non-Resident	\$394.25	\$290.65	\$317.40
MN Reciprocity	\$260.00 (estimated)	\$290.65	\$317.40
MN Reciprocity (PharmD)	\$304.60 (estimated)	\$290.65	\$317.40
Graduate Assistant	\$44.55	\$290.65	\$317.40

University Fees:

Students pay university fees of \$105.40 per credit on all **State Support** courses.

Other Fees:

Engineering, Nursing, and Pharmacy programs have additional fees.

	MS	PhD
Full-time student minimum credit hours	9	9

For more information on **financial aid**, contact:

Financial Aid Office
 Mailing Address: SDSU, Admin. 106
 Box 2201, Brookings, SD 57007
 Tel: 605/688-4695
 Fax: 605/688-5882
<http://www3.sdstate.edu/StudentLife/FinancialAid/Index.cfm>
 e-mail: financialaid@sdstate.edu

For information on any of 32 **graduate programs**, contact:

Graduate School
 Mailing Address: SDSU, Admin. 130
 Box 2201, Brookings, SD 57007-1998
 Tel: 605/688-4181
 Fax: 605/688-6167
<http://www.sdstate.edu/Academics/GraduateSchool/>
 e-mail: sdsu_gradschool@sdstate.edu