Typically, all students in the PhD program receive financial support through assistantships and tuition scholarships. Assistantships generally carry a stipend of around $16,850 for a nine-month contract (including winter session); students are expected to work 20 hours per week. Students also receive a 100% tuition scholarship for classes taken during the fall, winter, and spring semesters. Decisions regarding funding are made annually; continuing funding depends on availability and student performance in the assistantship.

Following admission, students will receive invitations to interview for various funding opportunities across campus. Every effort is made to match a student’s skills to funder’s needs as quickly as possible. Most funding matches are made in the spring; however, sometimes this process continues into the summer months. Although funding cannot be guaranteed at the time of admission, in the past decade, all PhD students have received funding for at least four years. Students may petition for a fifth year of funding. Such petitions are typically granted if the student is making good progress and has been successful in prior assistantship placements.