Western Michigan University’s Graduate College, the institution’s primary advocate for graduate study, promotes academic excellence by taking the lead in shaping graduate policy, assisting faculty in guiding and mentoring graduate students, and integrating services that help to recruit, retain, support, and graduate a diverse population of students in becoming accomplished and ethical scholars, researchers, and professionals within and across disciplines.

The Graduate College works to:

- Provide strategic leadership and support for graduate education within a learner-centered, discovery-driven, and globally engaged university
- Develop and improve the environment for graduate education at WMU
- Assist graduate programs with enrollment management
- Support and promote graduate student success in teaching, learning, and scholarly activities
- Provide quality control and maintain equitable and consistent standards in graduate programs

Graduate College Functions

- Promotes graduate education at WMU to internal and external constituents
- Actively recruits for a diverse student body and creates an inclusive environment
- Orients and welcomes new graduate students and faculty
- Facilitates retention and degree completion
- Provides academic and professional development services for students
- Manages the processes and approvals for the graduate enterprise (e.g. admissions, graduate faculty, student committees, assistantship appointments, travel and research awards)
- Enhances and promotes effective advising, mentoring, and supervision of graduate students
- Works with faculty to implement best practices in graduate education and program development
- Endeavors to diversify funding for graduate education
- Engages with graduate student organizations and oversees graduate student ambassadors
- Upholds standards and policies for graduate study, fostering an ethical academic community responsive to the needs of a pluralistic society
The Graduate College

Graduate College Associated Degrees, Programs and Students

- Graduate Non-degree Credentials
- Interdisciplinary Studies Doctorate
- Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation

Graduate College Fellowships, Scholarships, Grants and Awards

- The Gwen Frostic Doctoral Fellowship
- Thurgood Marshall Fellowship
- Martin Luther King, César Chavez and Rosa Parks Future Faculty Fellowship
- WMU Graduate Education and the Professoriate Fellowship
- Graduate College Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- George and Beatrice Fisher Gerontology Dissertation Prize
- The Patricia L. Thompson Dissertation Award
- Western Michigan University Dames Endowed Scholarship
- Graduate Student Research Grant
- Graduate Student Travel Grant
- Graduate Studies Council: Department and University Teaching and Research Award

Giving Opportunities Through the Graduate College

- The Graduate Student Commons-
  Consider contributing to the establishment of a community space for graduate students for workshops, seminars, and meeting space for graduate student associations

- Fellowships and Scholarships-
  Consider contributing to or creating a fellowship or scholarship fund

- Graduate Student Sponsorship-
  Consider sponsoring a graduate student for one of the following
  - Teaching academy
  - Leadership academy
  - Dissertation retreat
  - Cultural competence training

For more information, contact: grad-info@wmich.edu; (269) 387-8212.