

GSA Budget Legend - Expenses

Vice President	Both the President and Vice President positions for GSA are full graduate assistantships. The president's funding package is paid for by the Graduate College, but GSA assumes responsibility for the Vice President. This is a Fall/Spring semester only position and serves a two-year term.
Hilltop Review Editor	The Hilltop Review Editor manages the submission, review, revision, publication and distribution processes for the Hilltop Review, GSA's peer-reviewed journal. GSA pays this officer a stipend in compensation for their work. For more information about the journal, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/hilltopreview .
Executive Board Members	The seven other members of GSA's Executive Board (Parliamentarian, and Directors of Public Relations, Events, Professional Development, Administration, Outreach, and Advocacy & Legislative Affairs) are paid a stipend in compensation for the hours they work each week.
Graduate College Ambassadors	In recognition of the work they do representing current graduate students and recruiting future graduate students, GSA assists the Graduate College in funding the Graduate College Ambassadors' stipends.
Hilltop Review Publication	This line item covers all costs associated with the printing and distribution of the Hilltop Review, GSA's peer-reviewed journal. For more information about the journal, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/hilltopreview .
Hilltop Review Awards	The Hilltop Review awards cash prizes to the three best articles, the best piece of creative writing and the best artwork for both the Fall and Spring editions of

	<p>the journal. For more information about the journal, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/hilltopreview.</p>
Certification Grant	<p>GSA's Certification Grant program awards \$300 grants to help students cover costs associated with certification and licensure exams. The grant is awarded by the Graduate Financial Allocation Committee (GFAC). For more information on this grant, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/funding/licensure-certification-grant.</p>
Conference Grant	<p>GSA's Conference Grant program awards \$300 grants to help students cover registration fees or travel and accommodation costs associated with attending a professional conference. The grant is awarded by the GFAC. For more information on this grant, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/funding/conference-grant.</p>
Data Collection Grant	<p>GSA's Data Collection Grant program awards \$500 grants to help students with costs associated with data collection for thesis or dissertation research. The grant is awarded by the GFAC. For more information on this grant, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/funding/datacollection.</p>
Support to Grad and Mixed RSOs	<p>GSA offers funding for both operational expenses and one-time events to registered student organizations. An organization's membership must be at least 50% graduate students to qualify for funding. This money is awarded by the GFAC. For more information, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/funding.</p>

Support to Departmental Programs	GSA reserves these funds support different departments at WMU that want to implement programs or activities oriented to improve the lives of WMU graduate students, including resource fairs, conferences, events, etc.
Poster Day Prizes Contribution	GSA contributes money for the cash prizes awarded to graduate students at the Graduate College's Research and Creative Activities Poster and Performance Day event. For more information on this event, please visit https://wmich.edu/grad/research-performance .
Summer II Events	This line item covers all expenses related to GSA events held during the Summer II session. For a current list of GSA events, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/events .
Fall Events	This line item covers all expenses related to GSA events held during the Fall semester. For a current list of GSA events, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/events .
Spring Events	This line item covers all expenses related to GSA events held during the Spring semester, including the annual Make a Difference Awards. For current list of GSA events, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/events .
Summer I Events	This line item covers all expenses related to GSA events held during the Summer I session. For a current list of GSA events, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/events .

GSA Workshops	This line item covers all expenses related to GSA-sponsored professional development events and any funds transferred to the Graduate College to support their workshops. For a current list of GSA workshops and events, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/events .
Grad Talks (3MT)	GSA's largest recurring professional development event is the 3 Minute Thesis competition which takes place once each Fall and Spring semester. This line item covers all expenses related to that event, including cash prizes for the winners, catering for the event, advertising, etc. For more information on 3MT, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/3mt .
Outreach Project	This line item covers all expenses incurred in projects connecting GSA to the surrounding Kalamazoo community, including transportation, participant fees, volunteer t-shirts, publicity, etc.
Advocacy	This line item covers all expenses associated with GSA's advocacy efforts on behalf of graduate students, including transportation to representatives' offices, and accommodation and registration for the annual Legislative Action Days in Washington, DC. For more information on GSA's Advocacy and Legislative Affairs activities, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/legislative .
NAGPS Conference	GSA aims to send representatives each year to the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students conference. GSA covers transportation, accommodation, registration and meal costs associated with this annual event.

Promotional Materials	Each year GSA purchases promotional materials to distribute to returning and incoming graduate students to publicize the organization and connect students to its opportunities and resources. The items can include planners, t-shirts, sunglasses, coffee mugs, etc. A number of more expensive items are also purchased with the GSA logo to distribute as thank you gifts throughout the year to faculty and volunteer supporters.
GSA Monthly Meetings	This line item covers expenses associated with GSA's monthly General Assembly Meetings, including catering and raffle prizes. For a calendar of upcoming meetings, please visit https://wmich.edu/gsa/calendar-activities .
Executive Board Training	This line item covers expenses related to the training of new executive board members each summer, including leadership workshops, catering and venue space, and t-shirts, nametags, and other supplies.
Use Tax	Although GSA is tax exempt, some of the purchases GSA makes must pay a use tax. These expenses are not predictable, but annual use tax generally does not exceed \$1,500.
Eboard Meetings	GSA provides dinner for the executive board at their monthly evening meetings.
GFAC Meetings	GSA provides lunch for the volunteer members of the GFAC at their monthly midday meetings. This line item also covers office supplies distributed to GFAC members.
Operational Expenses	This line item covers supplies for the GSA's Walwood Hall office, such as printer toner, computers and accessories, paper, telephone service, etc.

Miscellaneous	All other unexpected requests and expenses are included here.
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