



The Graduate Division has launched this new newsletter for PhD program faculty to keep you informed about important opportunities, changes in policy, and to connect you with helpful resources.

Dear Colleague,

The Graduate Division is inaugurating this quarterly newsletter for all faculty who teach, mentor, or supervise PhD students at UCSF. We aim to provide information about policies, procedures, resources, and opportunities for our graduate students to minimize miscommunication and to maximize student success. I hope you will take the time to read through this newsletter and save it for future reference. If you really don't want to participate, you can unsubscribe, but I urge you to try it for a year. We look forward to your constructive feedback; please send comments and suggestions to [Associate Dean Elizabeth Silva](#).

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Watkins, PhD
 Dean, Graduate Division
 Vice Chancellor, Student Academic Affairs
 Professor, History of Health Sciences

How PhD student funding works: A primer

A. Programs with training grants: Students in years one and two are centrally supported by the program through a combination of return-to-aid funds from tuition, Discovery funds from the endowment, and training grant funds. In addition, some students receive support from extramural fellowships such as the NSF GRFP or competitive UCSF merit fellowships. After the first two years (three years for some programs), students are supported primarily by funds from faculty grants, although some will also receive support from NSF fellowships, NIH F31 fellowships, other foundation fellowships, and competitive UCSF merit fellowships.

B. Programs without training grants: Each program decides how and to whom to allocate the funds it receives from the Graduate Division (return-to-aid and Anthony endowment). Some students receive support from competitive UCSF merit fellowships or competitive fellowships offered by external foundations.

Who do I contact with questions about student financial support?

[Wendy Winkler](#). Note that a fellowship opportunity email is sent to all PhD students by the 10th of each month. Encourage your students to read the email and talk to you about the opportunities!

Student services and non-financial support

Is there a one-stop shop for resources for students?

YES! success.ucsf.edu.

Who should I contact with questions or concerns about a graduate student?

[Liz Silva](#)

Where can I find mentoring resources?

[The Graduate Division website – faculty/administrators area](#)

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