FINANCIAL AID FOR MEDICAL PHYSICS GRADUATE PROGRAMS (MPGP) STUDENTS

FEDERAL FUNDING

Federal Loans
Eligible domestic students should complete a FAFSA by the deadline. The Penn Student Registration and Financial Services (SRFS) has compiled Frequently Asked Questions about Graduate Student Loans. SRFS will send out decisions about financial aid packages. Please contact www.sfs.upenn.edu with questions. Incoming students will be assigned a Graduate Financial Aid Counselor to support them through the financial aid process.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Master of Science in Medical Physics Underrepresented Minority (URM) Scholarship
The University of Pennsylvania Medical Physics Graduate Programs has a $30,000 scholarship over two years (applied as a tuition bill credit) to support a student from an underrepresented minority background who enrolls full-time in our Master of Science in Medical Physics degree program. Students from underrepresented backgrounds who are pursuing the field of Radiation Oncology are eligible to apply by the stated deadline.

TUITION BENEFITS

Tuition Benefit for Post-Doctoral Fellows
The Department of Radiation Oncology funds 80% of tuition and fees for the Certificate in Medical Physics for a limited number of post-doctoral fellows in the Department of Radiation Oncology. The post-doctoral fellow is responsible for paying the remaining 20% of tuition and fees. The post-doctoral fellow must apply, be admitted to, enroll part-time in the Certificate program (in order to balance coursework with post-doctoral responsibilities), and maintain good academic standing in order to be eligible for the tuition benefit. Search here for open Department of Radiation Oncology post-doctoral positions. Contact mpp-info@uphs.upenn.edu with questions.

Tuition Benefit for Faculty and Staff
Regular, full-time faculty and staff and limited service staff are eligible for tuition assistance for credit courses at the University of Pennsylvania after they have worked for 6 months in their eligible role. The tuition benefit for faculty and staff covers 100% of the tuition, general, and technology fees at Penn for up to two course units each term (2 course units per fall and spring semester, and two course units over the entire summer) as long as the courses are credit courses. https://www.hr.upenn.edu/PennHR/benefits-pay/tuition/tuition-benefits-for-faculty-and-staff

EMPLOYMENT

MPGP Course Assistantships (CAs)
There are partial stipends available to select second year master’s students as course assistants for certain first year master’s courses (approximately $2,000 stipend per course).

Clinic
Hourly paid employment by the Department of Radiation Oncology for full-time enrolled master’s students beginning first year spring semester and full-time Certificate students for routine clinical work. This may include conducting patient-specific quality
assurance (QA) measurements prior to treatment in the PCAM clinics (approximately $20/hour, typically 6-8 hours maximum per week).

**Graduate Associate (GA)**
Graduate Associate (GA) positions for master’s students in Penn College Houses & Academic Services advise and support undergraduate students in exchange for dormitory housing and a dining allocation. [http://www.collegehouses.upenn.edu/join/ga](http://www.collegehouses.upenn.edu/join/ga)

**Teaching Assistant (TA)**
There are part-time employment opportunities (non-work study positions) available in academic departments as teaching assistants (TAs). TAs typically help the instructor with the operations and logistics of a course.

**Physics Department**

Graders are usually needed. No TA training required. Pay is approximately $1,600 per semester for 5 – 10 hours work per week. Interested students may send an email request to Millicent Minnick, Physics Department Administrator, at mminnick@physics.upenn.edu. Briefly introduce yourself and mention any previous experience as a TA or grader as well as any relevant coursework you've taken.

Lab TAs may be needed. There is some required TA training. Pay is approximately $1,950 per semester for 3 – 5 hours work per week. Interested students may send an email request to Michelle Last, michlast@physics.upenn.edu. Briefly introduce yourself and mention any previous experience as a TA or grader as well as any relevant coursework you've taken.

*Physics PhD students are given first priority for TA positions; extra positions are considered on a first-come, first-served basis.*

**Math Department**

TA positions may be available. There is a requirement to participate in the Math department’s TA training. Interested students should contact Nakia Rimmer, rimmer@math.upenn.edu. Briefly introduce yourself as a Master of Science in Medical Physics student and mention any previous experience as a TA or grader as well as any relevant coursework you've taken.

**Research Assistant (RA) positions**
Information will be available if part-time research positions are available from faculty from the Department of Radiation Oncology. Students may also email other faculty at Penn to inquire about available positions.

**On-campus, non-work study jobs for Penn students**
[https://www.sfs.upenn.edu/seo/job_search/job_search.php](https://www.sfs.upenn.edu/seo/job_search/job_search.php)

*International students on a visa should check with ISSS about work eligibility.*

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**FUNDING FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**MPGP Professional Development**
Each student will receive $1,000 as a reimbursement toward eligible expenses related to attending professional meetings, the American Board of Radiology (ABR) Part 1 Exam fee, and residency application expenses (fees, travel for interviews). There is also additional funding, awarded on a competitive basis, for expenses related to presenting a talk or poster at a professional meeting.

**Paid Membership Dues**
MPGP will pay for student application fees and membership dues in the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) and for Delaware Valley Chapter AAPM events.

**Penn GAPSA Professional Student Travel Grant**
The University of Pennsylvania’s GAPSA Professional Student Council distributes individual travel grants to defray the cost of qualified travel expenses for graduate students attending and/or presenting at academic conferences, meetings, and case competitions or pursuing professional development opportunities outside of the university.

**EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS**

**National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)**
https://www.nsfgrfp.org
This funding opportunity is for master’s students interested in STEM-based research projects and non-clinical careers.

**Health Physics Society**
http://hps.org/students/scholarships.html

**American Physical Society (APS) Travel Award for Excellence in Graduate Research**
Graduate students who are members of APS and FGSA are eligible to apply for a maximum award of $500 to cover travel expenses to attend a scientific conference or workshop.

**AAPM Expanding Horizons Travel Grant**
Awards up to fifteen travel grants per year, each up to $1000, for the purpose of providing additional support for student and trainee travel to conferences that are *not specifically geared toward medical physics*.

**Best Medical/AAPM Travel Fellowship**
Best Medical and The American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) offer a Travel Fellowship for Student, Resident or Junior Members of the AAPM to attend the AAPM Annual Meeting, to be exposed to and have access to the scientific and technical information and presentations on current and emerging topics in medical physics and related areas. Best Medical will provide five (5) fellowships in the amount of one thousand dollars ($1,000) each, to be awarded to the recipient prior to the AAPM Annual Meeting & Exhibition. Each applicant must be a Student, Resident or Junior Member of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM). Each applicant must have an accepted abstract. Each applicant must be the 1st author.

**United States Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program**
Covers 100% tuition, fees, textbooks, supplies, and stipend for the full 2 years, with active duty service requirement.