

Environmental Science and Policy Graduate Fellowships and Scholarships

George Mason University College of Science (COS) Environmental Science and Policy Department Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA)

Purpose

A Graduate Research Assistantship will be awarded to either a master's or doctoral student for the academic year 2026-2027. The Fellowship provides more opportunities for Environmental Science and Policy (ESP) graduate students to serve as Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs). The intent of this GRA position is to encourage and reward students with a clear research question and approach by defraying the costs of pursuing their stated goals. Interested students should apply by identifying their area of environmental research interest and will be selected on the basis of academic merit and financial need. Only one student per year.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be enrolled in the Environmental Science and Policy Master's program or Environmental Science and Public Policy Doctoral Program.
- Must have maintained a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Masters Students: Must have an advisor and approved research proposal.
- Doctoral Students: Must have completed required coursework (in-progress courses count toward the completed coursework), an advisor/committee chair, an approved dissertation proposal and must have advanced to candidacy or plan to advance to candidacy in the semester they are applying (Spring 2026).

Award Funding

MS Fellows:

- \$19,500 stipend annually (20 hours/week Academic Year)
- Tuition waiver: up to 18 tuition credits at the in-state rate (up to 9 credits in Fall and 9 credits in Spring)

PhD Fellows:

- \$24,000 stipend annually (20 hours/week Academic Year)
- Tuition waiver: up to 18 tuition credits at the in-state rate (up to 9 credits in Fall and 9 credits in Spring)

Both MS and PhD applicants will be awarded up to \$1,500 in research supply costs via the Francis Heliotis Scholarship. The actual amount awarded will be based on the budget submitted with the application.

Application Process

Students must submit the following materials by 8:00 a.m., Monday, February 16, 2026, by email to the ESP Graduate Program Office at espgrad@gmu.edu: The application must include the Student Information, Proposal, References, Budget and justification, CV, letter of recommendation from advisor (to be submitted separately). Please include "Graduate Student Fellowships Application" in the subject line of the email.