Graduate Opportunity Program (GOP)
Application for funding 2018-2019

What is the Graduate Opportunity Program (GOP)?

The Graduate Opportunity Program provides tuition assistance to EOP, HEOP and SEEK graduates undertaking graduate study at a participating SUNY Institutions. The University at Buffalo is a participating institution. This program provides in-state tuition waivers to full time students who are pursuing graduate or first professional degrees excluding Medical, Dental, Pharmacy and Law, and who are determined to have exceptional need by the Financial Aid Office.

The Graduate Opportunity Program is not open to Medical, Dental, Pharmacy or Law students. Students in those degree programs should apply for Economically Disadvantaged First Professional Study (EDPS) Program funding.

Who is eligible to apply for GOP assistance?

- Be a New York State resident who graduated from an EOP, HEOP or SEEK program.
- Be entering your first graduate degree ever.
- Be admitted to a University at Buffalo graduate degree program as a full-time student.
- File your FAFSA by March 1.
- Have a demonstrated Exceptional Financial Need as determined by the Financial Aid Office.

NOTE: Current UB graduate students who meet the above eligibility requirements may apply for GOP funding in 2018-2019. The GOP eligibility criteria for future years, beginning with 2019-2020, will be limited to newly admitted students who graduated from an EOP, HEOP or SEEK program within the past two years.

How to Apply for GOP 2018-2019:

1. Complete the online GOP Application (after January 2, 2018).
2. Complete the GOP Certification form and obtain the required verification from the director of the EOP/HEOP/SEEK program at your undergraduate institution.
3. Return the GOP Certification form by March 1, 2018 with required signatures by fax to 716-645-6142, by email to fellowships@buffalo.edu, or by mail to the following address:

   Office of Fellowships and Scholarships
   University at Buffalo
   402 Capen Hall
   Buffalo, NY 14260

4. Complete and submit the FAFSA application by March 1, 2018.

Even if you are independent and/or married, you must answer all of the questions in the parent information section of the FAFSA to be considered for GOP. Leaving blanks in these sections will exclude you from consideration for GOP funding.

Campus Liaison: Elizabeth Colucci

Fellowships and Scholarships

402 Capen Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260
716.645.9100 (F) 716.645.6142
fellowships@buffalo.edu
buffalo.edu/fellowships
Additional Resources: State funding to UB for GOP is extremely limited. Awards are not guaranteed for all who apply. Decisions will be based on Exceptional Financial Need as determined by the FAFSA and Office of Financial Aid. Decisions will be made in April; awardees will be notified by email.

Funding Limits

- GOP tuition scholarships are awarded at the standard in-state graduate tuition rate ($5,598 per semester as of AY 2017-2018). The student is responsible for any tuition cost in excess of that amount, as well as for the student fees associated with enrollment.
- Funding is provided only for the minimum number of credit hours required to complete a degree program. Master’s students may be considered for up to four semesters of funding; professional students (DNP, DPT) for up to six semesters; and doctoral students (PhD) for up to eight semesters. Funding is not provided for multiple degrees at the same level (e.g., two master’s degrees), for stand-alone certificate programs or for part-time students.
- To maintain a GOP award, students must continue to register full-time (or be certified full-time), obtain a 3.0 GPA each semester and complete classes in a timely manner. Failure to meet these requirements could result in termination of a student’s award.

Information is subject to change, without notice due to changes in federal, state and/or institutional rules and regulations. Students must be making satisfactory academic progress to continue to receive financial aid.
Graduate Opportunity Program (GOP) Certification Form
2018-2019 academic year

Deadline: March 1, 2018. Submit the completed online GOP Application found here: http://www.buffalo.edu/fellowships/gop-application.html. You must also submit a signed Certification Form to: The Office of Fellowships and Scholarships, University at Buffalo, 402 Capen Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260-1604. FAX: 716-645-6142. Completed forms must be received by March 1, 2018. The FAFSA must also be submitted, with parental information, by March 1, 2018.

Section 1 (To be completed by the applicant):

Name (Please print) Email (All notification will be made via email)

Address City State Zip code

Phone number UB Person Number (if known) Gender

UB Graduate Program Degree (e.g., MA, PhD) Department

Start term (e.g., fall 2018) Number of credit hours required for degree

Applicant’s Signature Date

Section 2 (To be completed by the director of the EOP/HEOP/SEEK program at applicant’s undergraduate institution):

Name of undergraduate institution where applicant received EOP/HEOP/SEEK support

Applicant’s Undergraduate Major Cumulative undergraduate GPA

Name of program Director (please print) Director’s email address

Director’s Signature Date