



**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Academic Deans  
Vice Deans, Associate Deans, and Staff with Responsibility for Graduate Programs

**From:** Andrew Stott, Vice Provost for Academic Programs and Dean of the Graduate School  
Meredith Drake Reitan, Associate Dean, Graduate School

**Date:** December 4, 2024

**Subject:** Revised Minimum Stipend for Graduate Students, AY 2025-2026

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This memo supersedes the previous memo of January 4, 2024.

Starting AY 2025, the university's minimum total stipend for students supported by graduate assistantships and fellowships will be \$41,200, a 3% increase from the previous minimum.

If your school or programs provide an amount higher than the university's minimum, new and continuing graduate student stipends should also increase by 3% in AY 2025.

Total stipends may be paid in the form of fellowships, teaching assistantships, research assistantships, graduate assistant lectureships, top-offs, various forms of government support, or combinations of these elements.

Schools are expected to ensure that all PhD students are supported at the level of the university minimum total stipend or a higher level for the duration of the package in their original offer letters.

The Multi Year Funding Offer system will be available at the start of the new year. If your school provides a stipend above the university's minimum, please email Meredith Drake Reitan at [mereditd@usc.edu](mailto:mereditd@usc.edu) and Laura Yoneda at [lyoneda@usc.edu](mailto:lyoneda@usc.edu) with the amount before January 10, 2025.

USC health and dental insurance policies and the USC student health center fee will remain part of the PhD funding package. The Student Health Office will provide the cost of these fees. There is no change in the way the university handles PhD tuition.

If you have questions about stipends or other related issues, please contact Meredith Drake Reitan at [mereditd@usc.edu](mailto:mereditd@usc.edu).

cc: Andrew Guzman  
Mark Todd  
Raquel Yarber