**Master of Science in Criminal Justice Funding Opportunities**

Financial aid is available through a limited number of assistantship stipends and tuition scholarships for on-campus students who qualify. All financial assistance is highly competitive. To be considered for an assistantship for the academic year you are interested in beginning the program, a completed application is due the November 1st prior to a spring semester start date and the April 1st prior to a fall semester start date.

Graduate student funding is awarded to students on a competitive basis. The aim of our funding opportunities are to (1) provide competitive and meaningful funding awards to exceptional and promising students; (2) to provide valuable and collaborative learning experiences for graduate students and faculty; and (3) to facilitate program completion in a timely manner. GAs participate in research-oriented activities such as data collection, data input, analyses, literature searches, and presentations, or may offer teaching assistance for faculty members.

**What types of awards are available?**

- **Graduate Assistantships (GA)**
  - Provides an instructional fee scholarship (i.e., covers tuition fees) up to 9 credit hours and stipend in exchange for service to the department or discipline.
  - A stipend only option (without instructional fee scholarship) is also possible under a GA award and requires service to the department or discipline.

- **Tuition Scholarship (TS)**
  - Provides fee waivers for instructional fees up to 9 credit hours.
  - Programs may also award full or partial scholarships covering the non-resident surcharge in lieu of or in addition to the tuition waiver.
  - TSs do not provide a stipend nor require service obligations.

- **Grant Funded Graduate Assistantships (GFGA)**
  - There may be years where CJ faculty members are working on a grant funded project whereby graduate students, new to or already enrolled in the MSCJ program, could be hired on as research associates.
  - Faculty member(s) who were awarded the grant selects the GFGA awardees.
  - GFGA awards provide
    - Instructional fee scholarships up to 12 credit hours per term
    - Stipend in exchange for work performed on the project

**Who is eligible to apply?**

- Must be admitted as a graduate degree seeking on-campus student.
- Must have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or at least 9 credit hours of graduate courses completed with a 3.0 GPA or higher.

**What are the enrollment criteria for award recipients?**

- Must be enrolled in a minimum of 4 credit hours per term for any student under a GA or GFGA contract.
- Partial or full fee scholarships are available to both part time and full time attending students.
- Students must be enrolled in a minimum of one (1) credit hour to receive a TS.
What criteria are considered when recipients are considered for selection?

- Undergraduate grades and any graduate course grades if taken
- Undergraduate institution attended
- Quality, organization, structure, and content of personal statement
- Skills such as library research, computer, statistical packages, Microsoft software, writing
- Resume or vita
- Responses on graduate application form
- Matched interests and experience with topics being examined in current research projects and/or with professors’ research agendas
- Other sources of support being received by or available to the student (this does not include loans or other funds that must paid back after graduation).

Special Items to Note

- General fees are not covered under any type of funding offered in the MSCJ program.
- Any funds not assumed by students will be returned to the MSCJ budget with the option to fund other students, new or continuing, as recommended by CJ faculty members and approved by the Graduate Coordinator and Chair of the MSCJ program.
- If, and when, monies are allocated the MSCJ program for students seeking admission for spring semester, only those students with a spring semester start date are eligible for the award(s).
- If other funds become available during the academic year that are not already earmarked for students starting spring semester, the CJ faculty will revisit the applicant pool of students with a fall semester start date of the same academic year.
- Specific hourly service requirements and duties will be determined by the graduate program awarding the GA, but at no time will a student be paid for less than 10 hours per week per term or more than 20 hours per week per term while under contract as a GA.
- Assistantship stipends and scholarship contracts are electronically processed through MyBGSU and require a BGSU e-mail address. Awardees will receive an email indicating they have received an award and will need to follow directions as noted therein to accept and electronically sign their contracts.
- Stipend payments are only made electronically through direct deposit. Students will receive the appropriate bank forms and tax forms from the Graduate College.