



The University of Texas at Austin
Interdisciplinary Life Sciences
Graduate Programs
College of Natural Sciences

Bridge Grants for New Students Experiencing Financial Hardship

New graduate students with documented financial need who are admitted to one of the ILS Graduate Programs may apply for a Bridge Grant. Bridge Grants offer **one-time additional funds** equivalent to a single month's stipend for graduate research assistants (GRAs). Grants are disbursed to recipients at the start of the first semester of enrollment.

Applications for Bridge Grant funding are only accepted after a student has been admitted to a graduate program. The [Department of Molecular Biosciences' Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee](#) will evaluate requests and select recipients.

Please note that the number of Bridge Grants available is limited and not all who apply may receive funds.

Eligibility:

Incoming first-year students who have been admitted to the Cell and Molecular Biology, Microbiology, or Biochemistry Graduate Program *and* who have confirmed intent to enroll at UT Austin may apply.

How to Apply:

Interested students may apply online at https://utexas.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5suUmEOW60GjSMC

The deadline to apply is **July 1, 2022**.

Documentation of Financial Hardship:

When applying for a Bridge Grant, students must submit one of the following items to document financial need:

- Copy of their FAFSA Report listing expected family contribution for the most recent tax year,
- Proof of a GRE or GMA exam fee waiver granted by ETS,
- Proof of an application fee waiver granted by UT Austin Graduate and International Admissions Center,
- If currently enrolled at an undergraduate institution, a copy of financial aid awards for the previous two semesters showing the source(s) of funding.

Disbursement of Funds:

Selected recipients will receive funds at the start of the first semester of enrollment, following matriculation to UT Austin. Funds may be issued via direct deposit or via paper-check, according to the recipient's preference.