

# GRADUATE SCHOOL



**WE CHANGE PEOPLE.  
THEY CHANGE THE WORLD.**



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
AT AUSTIN**

## GRADUATE EDUCATION

### *TRANSFORMING LIVES, TRANSFORMING TEXAS AND THE WORLD*

The Graduate School is at the heart of the University. It is the place where graduate students' lives are transformed, their dreams become reality, and they begin to find their way in the world to make their mark. The University of Texas at Austin Graduate School is one of the largest in the nation, enrolling nearly 12,000 students and awarding 800 doctorates and 2,800 master's degrees annually. The Graduate School is also among the very best: More than 40 of its 116 graduate programs are ranked in the top 10 nationally, according to *U.S. News & World Report*, and many others are in the top 25 or poised to join the elite ranks.

The impact of graduate education extends far beyond the University to Texas, the nation, and the world. Graduate students are integral to UT's core educational and research mission, working alongside the finest faculty researchers and inspiring undergraduate students in the classroom. More than 5,000 graduate students serve as research or teaching assistants each year, and their contributions are innumerable – as creators of original research, skilled assistants to faculty in labs and classrooms, and caring teachers. They are the backbone of the University's academic enterprise.

Graduate education has transformed the state of Texas by bringing billions of dollars in research grants to the University. More than \$3.6 billion in research funding has been secured by UT Austin in the past 10 years, which includes fellowships awarded to graduate students from the National Science Foundation, Ford Foundation, and other prestigious organizations. This funding has spawned economic growth across Texas and directly benefits the lives of its citizens.

The influence of graduate education far exceeds its effects on the economy. Culture, society, and quality of life are influenced by scholars from all disciplines. Graduate School alumni serve as leaders and creative forces at all levels of industry, government, and academia. The Graduate School takes great pride in distinguished alumni who have attained preeminence in their fields. These luminaries include James P. Allison, PhD '73, world-renowned for his cancer research and the antibodies he developed to fight melanoma, renal-cell carcinoma, and prostate and ovarian cancers; and South African novelist John M. Coetzee, PhD '69, who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2003.



## COMPETING WITH THE BEST

The best and brightest students choose carefully where to study and work, and the top schools compete aggressively for them. Rankings, national and international reputation, and level of support can make or break a talented student's decision about where to attend graduate school.

With 43 graduate programs in the top 10, The University of Texas at Austin stands tall among the premier universi-



ties in the United States. However, there is still much work to be done to compete with the number of top-ranked programs at peer institutions such as Berkeley (114), Michigan (87), and Wisconsin (53).

UT Austin's rankings are impressive, considering that only 17 percent of the University's operating budget is provided by state funding. State appropriations per student are significantly higher at peer institutions such as North Carolina, UCLA, and Berkeley, all of which appropriate at least 62 percent more state funding per student than Texas.

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## CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES

The Graduate School's goal is to award top-tier fellowships to the top 5 percent of the University's graduate students. These fellowships include an annual living stipend, tuition assistance, and an allocation for medical insurance. Currently, only about 2 percent of graduate students are funded at this level. To reach the 5 percent goal, the Graduate School aims to double the number of graduate students funded at the top tier across all disciplines.

Fellowships are awarded by the Graduate School on a competitive basis to students who are nominated each year by their graduate programs. The Graduate School works closely with each program to ensure that the top candidates choose UT Austin. Top-tier fellowships range from about \$20,000 to nearly \$50,000 annually, depending on available resources.

The Graduate School has set an ambitious but attainable goal of creating an endowment of \$100 million to support the top 5 percent of graduate students at the highest levels. Funds generated from the Graduate School endowment will be used to strengthen not only UT's top-ranked graduate programs but also those poised to move into the top 10 nationally. Such a focused, sustained effort over time will position many of the University's graduate programs at the top and raise the University's standing among the world's best academic institutions.



For more than 100 years, graduate education at The University of Texas at Austin has provided the platform for scholars to explore, experiment, and discover knowledge that has transformed the citizens of Texas, the nation, and the world. Through innovation, creativity, and intellectual leadership, the Graduate School and its community of scholars will continue to build upon this legacy and meet the challenges of our times.

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## A DISCIPLINED CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE

The campaign for the Graduate School is part of the University-wide campaign to increase resources across the campus and to create the “disciplined culture of excellence” called for by the Commission of 125, which established goals for the University for the coming 25 years. Gifts to the Graduate School will support graduate students and programs across all disciplines.

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| <b>Students</b> .....                           | \$100 million |
| Endowment for graduate fellowships and programs |               |



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