

Cost of Attendance & Financial Resource Guide

University of California, Los Angeles
Fielding School of Public Health



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PLANNING FOR YOUR GRADUATE SCHOOL PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

Welcome to the **Cost of Attendance and Financial Resource Guide** for the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), Fielding School of Public Health (FSPH)! This guide was written by students and staff within the school to provide you with resources and support when planning for graduate school. Planning and organizing your finances for graduate school may feel overwhelming, but there are many resources at UCLA and FSPH to support your journey and financial wellbeing.

There are many ways to fund your public health education as a graduate student. Students may feel overwhelmed when considering paying for graduate school, but UCLA and FSPH have many resources to help. We want to help make your education affordable!

Most students obtain funding from a variety of sources. It is important to consider all streams of income and financial assistance you may be able to receive and find to help supplement your education payments. Some students are heavily reliant on their personal savings, loans, familial support, their work, or things like fellowships and scholarships. All students fund their education differently, but most students find success in utilizing a variety of different sources to pay for their education.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used to determine your eligibility for federal loans, work study, and need-based scholarships from FSPH. This form applies to one academic year, and must be completed every year of your education. If you are a US Citizen or permanent resident you are eligible to complete this application.

If you are not a US Citizen, but qualify for a nonresident tuition waiver under AB-540, make sure to complete the California DREAM ACT application.

Both applications open October 1st and have a priority deadline of March 2nd. *Do not postpone filing your application.* To allow UCLA time to receive either of these applications, be sure to input the UCLA school code: **001315**.

UCLA Graduate Financial Aid

The financial aid package that you will receive, or Provisional Award Letter (PAL), is generated by the UCLA Financial Aid Office based on information provided by students on the FAFSA. The PAL will probably look very different from what you received as an undergraduate student. At the graduate school level there are no Federal Pell Grants or Cal Grants for residents of CA and any scholarships that you receive will not be included in this notice. As an FSPH incoming

student your PAL will consist of student loans and work study, if eligible. This differs from an undergraduate financial aid package that typically consists of scholarships and other awards offered to you. It is important to note that graduate students no longer qualify for subsidized loans, which will be further explained in the next section.

Types of Loans Available

Graduate students are eligible for federal direct unsubsidized loans and direct PLUS loans. These both differ from the subsidized loans you may have been offered during undergrad, as the unsubsidized and PLUS loans both accrue interest as soon as the initial loan is dispersed. Loans are financial assistance that come from either the federal government or private lenders. Ensure that you know the terms and conditions of your loans before borrowing, as they all differ. The specifications of each type of loan can be found below:

- *Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans (5.28% interest for 2021-22):*
All students, regardless of need, are eligible to receive Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans. UCLA will determine how much you can borrow based on cost of attendance and other financial aid you receive. Students do not have to begin making payments until six months after graduation. Graduate students are eligible to borrow up to \$20,500 in unsubsidized loans.
- *Federal Direct PLUS Loans (6.28% interest for 2021-22):*
Students are able to borrow up to the cost of attendance minus any other financial aid that you are already receiving. Graduate students are eligible to borrow up to the cost of attendance minus \$20,500 to fill in the gap for Federal Direct PLUS loans.
- *Private Loans (interest varies by private lender):*
Some students choose to borrow from a private lender instead of taking federal financial aid. The interest rates and repayment terms vary so it's important to investigate their interest rates and repayment options.

If you are receiving an internal or external scholarship, you must report this to the financial aid office, as this could reduce the amount of loans you are offered.

UCLA Cost of Attendance

The overall cost of attendance at UCLA includes tuition, fees, and expenses for housing, food, educational materials, and transportation. The cost of attendance is determined by your residency status and by the housing option you select on the financial aid application (commuter student living with family vs. student living independently). This figure, and sum of the previous expenses, is what the Financial Aid Office uses to process aid eligibility and your award package. Your UCLA financial aid package cannot exceed the cost of attendance. We recommend for students to create a budget and compare the projected [UCLA cost of attendance](#) with your own personal budget. Tuition and fees have been set and are fixed costs, yet items such as room/meals, personal fees, books and supplies, and transportation costs may vary by each student's budget.

Scholarships and Fellowships

FSPH Scholarships: FSPH offers a variety of scholarships and fellowships for entering and continuing students. Newly admitted students are automatically considered for departmental and schoolwide awards and are contacted individually if they are granted a scholarship. Awards are made after students are accepted and even after students commit to attending UCLA, as funding becomes available. Continuing students are also eligible to receive funding for their second year of study, for their field studies practicum (MPH students) and for conference travel.

Campus wide Scholarship Opportunities: UCLA Graduate Division offers over 600 scholarships, grants, fellowships, and postdoctoral awards. Use the search engine to find opportunities you may be qualified for.

External Scholarships: There are a variety of external scholarships available for students of all degree types and programs, many based on your interests and past experiences. **Graduate Peer Mentors** are a resource for current and prospective students to help students search and prepare for external scholarships and fellowships. Make an appointment with a peer mentor to find individualized opportunities!

It is never too early to start seeking external scholarships. We often recommend that students search for scholarships as they are applying to graduate school programs, as many scholarships have deadlines before the start of the academic school year. Searching early and searching often will help boost your chances of securing funding. Although there are some internal sources of funding from the school, the number of scholarships and fellowships are limited. This is why we recommend searching outside of your department and FSPH to find additional opportunities.

Working While in School

Working at UCLA: Many of our students choose to work while in graduate school either on or off campus. Working at UCLA, in particular, may be a great way to subsidize your education. On campus employment opportunities pay hourly salaries or offer a stipend and/or tuition remission. Examples of these on-campus positions are listed below:

- Graduate Student Research Positions (GSR): Assist faculty with scholarly research
- Teaching Assistantships (TA): Teach/co-teach courses, hold office hours, support class instruction and grading for regular faculty members
- Readers: Assist faculty members in grading and/or reading papers, exams, assignments
- Tutors: Provide individual or small group instruction

**Note: International students can work up to 20 hours per week during the academic year*

Incoming students can search for campus opportunities **after** they have submitted their Statement of Intent to Register (SIR). TA positions may be found through the TA Marketplace, by contacting UCLA departments directly or through emails from FSPH. For masters students, GSR positions are most often located by contacting individual faculty members and after several quarters at FSPH, or during the second year of study.

Funding for PhD Students

PhD students support their education through a variety of means including departmental support, TA and GSR positions, participation in training grants, collaboration with external organizations, and external fellowships. The UCLA Graduate Division also offers fellowships for doctoral students, including funding for summer research work and for the dissertation year. PhD students are also eligible to receive up to \$1,000 for presentations at conferences.

A complete list of financial resources can be found [here](#).



Image by Paulina Sepulveda, FSPH 2021 Ambassador

ESTIMATED TUITION RATES: FIELDING SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Tuition and mandatory fees are set regardless of method of instruction (remote v. in-person).

[2021-2022 Public Health Tuition Rates](#) (Including Fees)

Table 1:

DEGREE PROGRAM	AVERAGE LENGTH OF PROGRAM	FULL TIME RATE/yr (Resident- In State)	FULL TIME RATE/yr (Nonresident)
Master of Public Health	2 years	\$25,036	\$37,737
Master of Science	2 years	\$17,836	\$32,938
PhD	4-6 years	\$17,856	\$32,958

A few things to note regarding tuition and fees:

These prices include the yearly \$4,719 fee for the UC Student Health Insurance Plan, UCSHIP. Students must have medical insurance as a condition of registration. This fee is waivable if a student submits an [online waiver](#) each academic year and has their own medical insurance that qualifies under the University's standards.

If you are considering pursuing a dual degree (ex. MA/MSW/MPP/Anderson/Medicine/Law), there may be other fees associated with the programs. Please check with your dual program to check for additional professional fees that you may be required to pay.

All fees associated with public health programs can be found in Appendix A, and are included in the above total cost of tuition. They are yearly fixed costs that must be paid.

BUDGETING FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL

The prior page discussed the annual cost of tuition and fees for the Fielding School of Public Health. Tuition is one portion of planning for the total cost of graduate school, but so are your variable expenses, including living in Los Angeles. Los Angeles is a wonderful and vibrant community, and budgeting and understanding your financial options can help to make living here more attainable and feasible. Although we acknowledge that Los Angeles is expensive, there are many ways to make it more affordable! Page 13 will discuss different ways in which students make living in Los Angeles work for them.

Budgeting is a way to help you understand your income and expenses, to determine how much money in loans you may need to take out, and to find out where you can save on expenses. Below are budget estimates of what your experience could look like at UCLA:

Total Cost of Attendance: [Estimates of 2021-2021 Annual Graduate Budget](#)

Table 2:

Estimated Annual Graduate Budget		
	Off-Campus	Commuter
Tuition (Take your FSPH tuition rate from Table 1)	\$	\$
Room and Meals	\$21,663	\$10,815
Books & Supplies	\$1,998	\$1,998
Transportation	\$1,923	\$2,103
Personal	\$2,256	\$2,085
Subtotal	\$	\$
Annual Total (Subtotal+FSPH Tuition Fees)	\$	\$

*Document Fee is \$100 for doctoral students (add \$20 to total)

Loan fees are only if you are taking out loans

Student Loans

When considering how much in student loans you may need to borrow, it is important to consider that the above estimates are simply estimates, and your financial situation may differ. It is easiest to see if the budget amount estimates are too high or low for your individual situations by breaking these line items into a monthly budget.

The following table is an example of a nine month graduate budget. The UCLA academic calendar starts in Fall quarter and extends until the end of Spring quarter for the duration of nine months (excludes summer). By dividing each category's value by 9, you can determine your monthly costs during the UCLA academic school year.

Estimate of 9 Month Graduate Budget		
	Off-Campus	Commuter/Remote Learner
Tuition (Take your FSPH tuition rate from Table 2 and divide by 9)	\$	\$
Room and Meals	\$2,407	\$1,201
Books & Supplies	\$222	\$222
Transportation	\$213	\$233
Personal	\$250	\$231
Subtotal	\$	\$
Monthly Total (Subtotal+Tuition)	\$	\$

Loan fees will be added if you do take out a loan with UCLA.

Breaking Down the Budget Categories:

Your actual costs may differ from the above line items. The only fixed costs are the university fees, loan fees, and document fees. The other categories may be different according to your own budget and spending habits. Below, we will dive a little deeper into each of these budget categories where you can determine if these prices seem accurate for your lifestyle. This will help you decide how much in student loans you may need/not need to borrow!

- ***Room and Meals***

This price can differ based on where you decide to live and how you budget your eating in and dining out.

Room: If you live at home with family, this category may be \$0 for you. Some students share rooms with other students and are able to find cheaper and more affordable rent this way! Other students live in [on-campus graduate housing](#) where utilities are sometimes included in the price of living.

The University has distinct graduate housing communities, comprising apartments that range from studios to 2-bedroom apartment units that make up the [UCLA Single Graduate Housing Contracts](#). The prices of graduate apartments range from \$954-\$1900 depending on the size of the apartment, location, and occupancy. *It is important to note that graduate housing is not guaranteed for graduate students.* Housing is allocated based on a lottery system. Students interested in joining the lottery must first apply for a spot. Information can be found [here](#). Please contact housing if you have further questions or concerns, as this is not something directly associated with FSPH. There are many other options and places to find roommates to save money on rent and make staying in Los Angeles an affordable living experience. Talk to your incoming cohort as well to see if anyone has any leads on locations to live, is in need of a roommate, or has other connections to housing!

Meals: Many students meal prep and cook from home to save money on food and meals. This category is variable depending on the frequency in which you eat out or where you shop. It is recommended to track your spending habits on food to see what is an appropriate estimate for you!

- ***Books & Supplies***

Many students have found that this category is an especially high estimate. To save money on books and supplies, check Chegg, Amazon rentals, or even other students who may have taken the class before and may be willing to lend you their copies. See page 19 for additional money-savings recommendations for textbooks.

- ***Transportation***

This category accounts for an estimated rate of gas and car insurance for students. If you do not anticipate having transportation costs or do not own a car, this category may be much lower for you, and it is something to consider when taking out loans. See page 19 for additional tips to save on transportation costs.

- ***Personal***

This is a category that was based on estimates from the UC Office of the President and the UCLA Financial Aid Office. This category may be significantly different for each person based on their personal spending habits. Items in this category would consist of things such as shopping, subscriptions, gifts, emergency funds, paying back other student loans, or really any other personal expense.

- **Health Insurance**

All students must have medical insurance that complies with the requirements of the university. Students can petition to [waive out](#) of the UCLA Student Health Insurance if they already have a plan that meets the criteria. If this is the case, this entire line item can be eliminated for the student.

Overall, budgeting is an important tool to help you keep track of your own spending habits and see how much money you may need to borrow in loans. It is always recommended to only take out as much as you need because interest does accrue on graduate student loans right away.

There are some great resources to help you start budgeting! There are many personal finance apps such as Mint, EveryDollar, as well as the UCLA Financial Wellness Program that has tailored [online modules](#) to help you start budgeting today!

Other Costs to Consider

- [Campus Parking](#)

Whether you are living on campus or need to commute to campus, parking is an expense many students forget to address when creating their initial budgets. Parking passes cost around \$300 per quarter, but prices do vary depending on the location of the parking garage. Many students carpool to campus or take public transportation to lessen this expense.

- Savings

Make sure to include a savings category into your budget. Savings are important for emergency situations, and for long-term life planning in achieving your financial goals.

Take a look at your budget first to calculate how much you think you actually will need during the next year, utilizing the above tools to help you make an informed decision on how much school will cost you. Then, take out loans based on that figure, as it may differ from your maximum loan amount offered. Interest begins to accrue on graduate loans immediately, so we recommend only taking out as much as you think you will truly need.

Loans are Not as Intimidating as they May Seem

Loans are often extremely intimidating for students, but they do not have to be! First, to provide an overall definition, loans are a debt incurred by an individual in return for a sum of money. You as the borrower must adhere to the set of loan terms, repayments, and other conditions which can feel overwhelming. UCLA makes taking out federal student loans (Unsubsidized or PLUS loans) non-intimidating by offering loan flexibility if your circumstances change.

For example, if you first calculate your budget and take out a lesser amount of your loan offering than you actually need, you can always access the rest of the loan amount offered to you. This would be done by submitting a petition for re-evaluation request to the financial aid office to

reinstate a previously cancelled loan. Conversely, if you feel you took out too much of your student loan (perhaps you are offered a scholarship or fellowship that covers a portion of your tuition, receive a job etc.) you can reduce your loan, or cancel your loan entirely.

In order to complete either of these processes, you would need to fill out the [petition for re-evaluation form](#) to make loan adjustments. The complete process for how to execute this can be found [here](#), but it is essentially all completed through the MyUCLA Financial Aid and Scholarships section. A complete list of all appeal forms can be found [here](#).

Finally, if you have already exhausted your financial aid resources and come into a situation where you need additional funding, UCLA does have a budget increase request policy. This money is only given for certain allowable expenses that can be found on the [budget increase request form](#) that must be filled out when requesting additional money.

Ultimately, if you ever have any questions or concerns regarding the financial resources available to you, have a discussion with the financial aid office. Student circumstances are changing more than ever in the era of COVID-19, and there are resources and support that UCLA can offer.

UCLA PROVISIONAL AWARD LETTER

A Provisional Award Letter (PAL) is the financial aid letter offered to you by UCLA after admission into university. Your PAL will include information on the cost of attendance, loan options, work study options, and the total price of tuition you will be expected to pay as a graduate student. The information on this award letter will be based on information from your FAFSA. Students will only receive a PAL if they have submitted a FAFSA for the intended matriculation year. Your PAL will not include any scholarships that you may be awarded. In order to connect your FAFSA information with the UCLA system please ensure that we have your social security number. You can do this through the [myUCLA portal](#) by entering your information in the 'SSN/Taxpayer ID' menu option 'under the 'Settings' tab. **Entering students are notified via email if they are awarded FSPH or UCLA scholarships after the initial offer of admission is made.**

The Difference: Undergraduate students are typically presented with a bundled scholarship package. However, for graduate students at FSPH, the process to allot scholarships is entirely different. Scholarships are offered to students throughout the entire school year. Just because you are not initially offered scholarships, this does not mean you will not receive one later in the year, as there are always many opportunities! Talk to your Student Affairs Officer or check out the [FSPH scholarship page](#) to see scholarships for newly admitted and continuing students.



Annotated Provisional Award Letter

ANNOTATED College Financing Plan

Questions? Collegefinancingplan@ed.gov

Student name/identifier:
date issued (right side)

Individual student's cost of attendance

Expected Family Contribution based on FAFSA and Institutional Methodology

NET PRICE

School recommended Federal loan amounts; state and institutional loans appear below in the customized information box

Space for institution to send custom message

University of the United States (UUS)
Graduate Professional College Financing Plan
Student Name: Issued

MM / DD / YYYY

Total Cost of Attendance 2021-2022

	On Campus Residence	Off Campus Residence
Total tuition fees		\$0.0000
Room and meals	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Books and supplies	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Transportation	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Personal expenses	\$0.0000	\$0.0000
Estimated Cost of Attendance	\$0.0000 / yr	\$0.0000 / yr

Expected Family Contribution

Based on FAFSA	\$0.0000 / yr
Adjusted for institutional methodology	\$0.0000 / yr

Scholarship and Grant Options
Before awarding awards we will review your aid and resources to decide if awards, means or institutional may be awarded to you.

Scholarships

Merit Based Scholarship	\$0.0000
Scholarship per year	\$0.0000
Scholarship per year	\$0.0000
Other scholarship	\$0.0000
Scholarship per year	\$0.0000
Scholarship per year	\$0.0000
Scholarship per year	\$0.0000
Scholarship per year	\$0.0000
Scholarship per year	\$0.0000

Grants

Need Based Grant	\$0.0000
Need Based Grant	\$0.0000
Need Based Grant	\$0.0000
Need Based Grant	\$0.0000
Need Based Grant	\$0.0000
Need Based Grant	\$0.0000
Need Based Grant	\$0.0000
Need Based Grant	\$0.0000

College Costs You Will Be Required to Pay

Net Price	\$0.0000 / yr
Cost of state and institutional aid	\$0.0000 / yr

Loan and Work Options to Pay the Net Price to You
You must accept these options to receive aid.

Loan Options*

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	\$0.0000 / yr

Work Options

Work Study	\$0.0000 / yr
Work Study	\$0.0000 / yr
Work Study	\$0.0000 / yr
Work Study	\$0.0000 / yr
Work Study	\$0.0000 / yr
Work Study	\$0.0000 / yr
Work Study	\$0.0000 / yr
Work Study	\$0.0000 / yr

Private Loan Options

Private Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Private Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Private Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Private Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Private Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Private Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Private Loan	\$0.0000 / yr
Private Loan	\$0.0000 / yr

Other Options

Other Option	\$0.0000 / yr
Other Option	\$0.0000 / yr
Other Option	\$0.0000 / yr
Other Option	\$0.0000 / yr
Other Option	\$0.0000 / yr
Other Option	\$0.0000 / yr
Other Option	\$0.0000 / yr
Other Option	\$0.0000 / yr

Education Tax Incentives

Checklist

The sum of each grant sub-category appears here; campus-based FSEOG and TEACH Grants would appear here under "Institutional Grants"

Aid awarded by school but earned through work

School contact details for more information and next steps

NOTE: Institutions may contact Collegefinancingplan@ed.gov to indicate their commitment to use the College Financing Plan. Students, parents, and institutions may also direct questions about the College Financing Plan to that e-mail address. Visit the College Financing Plan's page on the Office of Postsecondary Education's Web page for resources and background about the development and adoption of the College Financing Plan: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/guid/aid-offer/index.html>.

FSPH STUDENT TIPS



Lucia Garcia

“As an out of state student, it was a large priority of mine to search for scholarships to help supplement my income to pay for my tuition, and find on campus flexible employment opportunities. There are so many opportunities at UCLA whether they be through FSPH, the Graduate Division, or external scholarships, it is important to search early and apply to as many as you can! I often went to the Graduate Writing Center to help me polish my scholarship applications, and the Financial Wellness Program to find job opportunities. Use all the resources you can while in school, and always seek help when you need it.”

- MPH student in Health Policy & Management, from Arizona



Becca Woofter

“If you are coming from another state, be sure to stay on top of residency requirements to get in-state tuition for the rest of your years at UCLA. Most requirements must be completed early in the Fall quarter. Many students take buses to campus, and a free public transit pass is given to every student. Keep bus routes in mind when looking for an apartment so you don’t have to pay for parking on campus.”

- PhD. student in Community Health Sciences, from North Carolina



Cynthia Hou

“If you need extra assistance with food resources, the CPO Food Closet on the main campus allows you to pick up a variety of fresh produce and packaged food items for free, no financial proof needed. CalFresh has also recently expanded to allow MPH students to be exempt from the work requirement - that's extra money for groceries that you can get, and definitely worth applying for if you qualify at your student income level.”

- *PhD Student in Health Policy and Management, from California*



Lorena Espinoza

“Finding and applying for grants/scholarships has been a monumental part of my financial journey. As a first generation college student, it was vitally important to look for scholarships targeting minority, first generation, or underrepresented students. I knew that when it comes to funding, finding organizations/grants/fellowships that are specific to a cause are much more attainable. It was vitally to practice writing a personal statement months in advance. It should blend your academic, professional and personal experiences together. I've found that funding prompts tend to be short, and it has really helped me to formulate my story and make sure it's concise and forward-thinking before I began my graduate school applications.”

- *MPH Student in Health Policy and Management, from California*

PAYING FOR SCHOOL AS AN OUT OF STATE STUDENT

Moving to Los Angeles may be an intimidating transition, especially for out-of-state students, due to the increased living expenses and the additional cost of non-residential supplemental tuition. Fortunately, there are many ways to make paying for school and living more manageable. There are also many perks that come from living in Los Angeles! Although housing and overall costs are often higher in Los Angeles than the national average, this estimate does vary depending on where you choose to live and your lifestyle. Creating a budget, considering roommates, and being frugal with your spending money are ways to start making a manageable working budget for living in Los Angeles.

The city of Los Angeles is beautiful, vibrant, and diverse. It is also in close proximity to various healthcare organizations, which makes LA an especially attractive location for those studying public health whether you are looking for internships or full time work during school.

The Logistics for Out of State Students

All students who are not current California residents will be classified as an out-of-state student and will be responsible for paying out-of-state tuition fees each quarter. This includes international students and any domestic student not from California.

There are some student populations that may be exempt from paying the nonresident supplemental tuition (including AB-540 students) if a petition is filed by the deadline. Common tuition exemptions can be found [here](#). Applying for an exemption does not change the student's responsibility to pay by the campus deadline if eligibility is not determined by the deadline.

If you do not qualify for an exemption and are an out-of-state student, you can establish California residency for your second year and beyond in your graduate program.

Who Can Apply/ How to Apply for California Residency for Tuition Purposes

If you are an out-of-state student, establishing California residency for purposes of tuition at UCLA is a great way to save on paying the additional nonresident tuition fees. There are four main requirements that must be met to become a California resident:

1. Physical Presence
2. Intent to Remain in California
3. Financial Independence
4. Immigration Status

A complete list of these four requirements can be found [here](#), including updated policies.

In order to petition for in-state residency for tuition purposes, there are many steps that must be taken early on to start the process (oftentimes starting in the summer before you begin your first year of school). Additionally, there are many documents that must compile to demonstrate to the residence deputy that you qualify. A full list of steps to petition can be found [here](#). Some of the

key steps that must be taken to be classified as a California resident are demonstrating financial independence, relinquishing ties with your current state (obtaining a CA drivers license, CA voter and vehicle registration etc.), and living in the state for 366 calendar days before filing the petition. Make sure to inquire about the full steps early with the [residence deputy](#) if you have any questions.

The application cycle for petitioning for in-state residency occurs before the start of each quarter. Please check out the dates for the cycles [here](#), and ensure all materials and supporting documents are submitted by the deadline. The filing periods and more information on the process can be found [here](#), and a [tips sheet](#) for graduate students can also help you through the process.



Image by Paulina Sepulveda, FSPH 2021 Ambassador

STRATEGIES FOR REDUCING EXPENSES AND MANAGING COSTS

You can cut down on expenses by using the various resources in and around the UCLA community. This is a [comprehensive list](#) of discounts students are eligible to receive. UCLA also has various ways in which students can benefit from alternative and cost-effective solutions to save money.

Transportation

- UCLA has their own free shuttles, known as [Bruin buses](#) that take students to various areas around campus.
- Many students use public transit as their primary mode of transportation, as it is a cost-effective way to move around Los Angeles. [LA Metro](#) is an excellent website used to locate bus routes and prices.
- There are many different [commute options](#) for getting to UCLA (walk, bike, public transit) and many benefits for [Bruin commuters](#) as well.
- If you do decide to purchase a parking pass and bring your car to campus, UCLA has an e-Permit system where you can purchase quarterly passes. Details on how to apply for parking and the rates can be found [here](#).
- More recently, UCLA has started a complementary [bike rental program](#) for students, which is an excellent way to get around campus.

Textbooks

- There are many ways students save money on textbooks. First, check with students who have previously taken the class who may own hard copies of required textbooks. They may be able to lend or rent the textbooks at reduced prices. Checking Amazon, Chegg, or rentals from the UCLA bookstore are other alternatives that may help you save money on textbooks if you do not want to purchase them. Make sure to shop and compare for the best prices before purchasing.
- Many of the course textbooks can be found at the [UCLA library](#) and can be rented for short periods of time. The [UCLA library catalog](#) has a listing of books that can be borrowed. Access the UCLA library and campus resources from home using the [VPN](#).

Housing

- Finding roommates is one of the key methods students use to save on housing costs. This allows students to split rent and utilities, which makes living in Los Angeles more feasible. Connecting with potential roommates from all departments in FSPH is a common way in which students find roommates. There are also UCLA-wide Housing Facebook groups where students often find apartment listings and potential roommates. Popular neighborhoods for our students to live include Culver City, Palms, Westwood, the San Fernando Valley, and West Los Angeles.

- UCLA also has off-campus graduate community apartments where many students choose to live. Check out the [UCLA Housing Portal](#) for more information regarding the lottery system, pricing, and locations.
- The UCLA campus newspaper, the Daily Bruin, also often posts apartments for rent near campus. Listings can be found [here](#).
- The [University Cooperative Housing Association](#) is another option students consider for affordable housing near campus.

How to Have Fun in Los Angeles on a Budget/Free Activities/Entertainment

UCLA and the areas surrounding Los Angeles have many free or reduced cost activities for students who may be on a budget. Some of these activities may have changed during COVID-19, but many are open with restrictions that adhere to CDC guidelines and uphold student safety. Below is a condensed list of some of our students' favorite activities:

- The [UCLA Recreation Centers](#) are free for students to access and are great spots to work out, swim, play tennis, tan, and connect with fellow Bruins!
- The [Marina del Rey Aquatics Center](#) has free classes and equipment rentals such as kayaks for UCLA students.
- There are also a variety of museums/theme parks that offer free admission or student discounts:
 - [Museum of Contemporary Art](#) (MOCA) Student discount
 - [Griffith Observatory](#)
 - [Huntington Library and Gardens](#):
 - [California Science Center](#)
 - [UCLA Meteorite Gallery](#)
 - [Hammer Museum](#)
 - Reduced [theme park tickets](#) from the Central Ticket Office

RESOURCES

There are a variety of resources in and out of FSPH that can help support you in funding your graduate education and your financial wellbeing.

- [Office of Financial Aid](#)
- [Cal Fresh](#)
- [Financial Wellness Program](#)
- [Economic Crisis Response Team](#)
- [Basic Needs](#)
- [FSPH Ambassadors](#)
- [Graduate Student Resource Center](#)
- [Graduate Division](#)
- [Student life FAQs](#)
- [Scholarship Resource Center](#)
- [Student Groups](#)
- [RISE](#) (Resilience in your Student Experience)
- [CAPS](#) (Counseling and Psychological Services)
- [FSPH Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion](#) (EDI)
- [Center for LGBTQ Advocacy, Research and Health](#)
- [Dashew Center for International Students and Scholars](#)
- Plus more! For a comprehensive list of UCLA and FSPH resources [here](#).

CONTACT US

We are here to support you through your decision process if/once you enroll as a Bruin! Please connect with us if you have any questions, and we would be happy to connect you with the appropriate resource to best support you.

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Image by Paulina Sepulveda, FSPH 2021 Ambassador

Appendix A: Fees Included in Annual FSPH Tuition Cost

Fees	Description
Tuition	Amount set by the Regents to fund the public health academic program
Student Services Fee	Supports operating and capital expenses for services and programs relating to campus life/community, educational and career and support services
Non Resident Supplemental Tuition	Paid by students who are not residents of California- this rate is set by the Regents
Ackerman Student Union Fee	Covers various projects in facilities operated by ASUCLA
Graduate Students Association Fee	Supports graduate student government to administer these funds on behalf of students
Graduate Writing Center Fee	Provides funding to the writing center, which supports writing assistance for academic writing and presentations
Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition	This amount is different for each professional school program, and is used for financial aid and to maintain academic quality
<i>UC Student Health Insurance Plan*</i>	<i>Medical insurance is a condition for registration at the University of California</i>
Student Programs, Activities, and Resources Complex Fee	Supports construction and renovation of the gyms on campus
Wooden Center Fee	Supports repayment of construction bond for the John Wooden Recreation Center
BruinGo Universal Access Transit Pass Fee	Provides all graduate students with a transmit pass that allows for unlimited access to Los Angeles County public transportation

**UC Student Health Insurance Plan can be waived.*