Graduate Study at The University of Alabama

The University of Alabama is a comprehensive research university enrolling about 4,300 graduate students in more than 150 master's, educational specialist, and doctoral programs. Here you will find high-quality programs combined with excellent faculty, top-notch facilities, and outstanding cultural and recreational opportunities.

You will discover that being a graduate student at The University of Alabama means joining a supportive and intellectually stimulating community of scholars and researchers. Our distinguished graduate faculty members, as well as visiting endowed professors and research fellows, provide graduate students with an impressive array of opportunities to learn and grow. UA is further enhanced by the diversity of backgrounds and experiences of our graduate students.


Apply online at http://graduate.ua.edu. See also: Frequently Asked Questions

About the University of Alabama

Since its founding in 1831 as the first public university in the state, The University of Alabama has been committed to providing the best, most complete education possible for its students. Our commitment to that goal means that as times change, we sharpen our focus and methods to keep our graduates competitive in their fields. We offer

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excellent facilities for graduate study and research, including laboratories, studios, multimedia classrooms, and online libraries. For eight consecutive years, the University has ranked in the top 50 in U. S. News & World Report’s list of top public universities nationwide.

Across our beautiful 1,000-acre campus, several buildings dating back to the founding of the University are still in use today—alongside other historic structures and recent construction housing state-of-the-art technology. The last 15 years represent one of the largest growth periods in the University’s history. Recent additions to the campus include science and engineering research facilities, computer centers, and premier music and performance buildings.
Admission & Application Requirements

Please apply for graduate study at The University of Alabama at [http://graduate.ua.edu/application](http://graduate.ua.edu/application)*

Before you apply, consult with the department or program to which you will apply and inquire about additional application requirements and departmental financial assistance forms.

The information below is important for applicants who are U. S. citizens, as well as those from other countries. To view special information for international applicants, [click here](http://graduate.ua.edu/application).*

1. The Graduate School’s Applicant Data Sheet and Statement of Purpose should be submitted online at [http://www.graduate.ua.edu/application](http://www.graduate.ua.edu/application).*

2. Two official transcripts must be sent (at the applicant’s request) to the Graduate School directly from the registrar of all colleges attended, including The University of Alabama. Graduates from regionally accredited institutions (or the equivalent for international students) are eligible for consideration. Seniors with at least 91 credits are also eligible to apply.

3. If required by department to which application is made, official score reports of GRE, GMAT, or MAT must be sent (at the applicant’s request) to the Graduate School directly from the testing service. Test scores must be no more than five years old.

4. Three original letters of recommendation, preferably from your former professors, should be sent directly from your references to the department office or program in which you plan to major.

5. Nonrefundable online application fee. (Note: Application fee is waived for McNair Scholars.)

Application may be made to up to two programs at a time.

*Applicants with restrictions that prevent use of our online application should contact our Graduate School office.

Application Deadlines

Applications should be submitted as early as possible to allow adequate time for review. Many
departments have early deadlines, and all application materials should be submitted at least six weeks prior to department deadlines. Contact the office of the department or program in which you plan to major for specific application and financial assistance deadlines. If there is not an earlier department deadline, submit your application at least six weeks before the semester of enrollment. For a detailed deadline chart visit http://graduate.ua.edu/application/appdeadlines.html.

International Applicants

UA welcomes applicants from around the world; however, additional time is required for admission decisions and processing of immigration documents for international applicants. Thus, international applicants should submit their applications to the Graduate School as early as possible, and those residing outside the United States are encouraged to complete their applications at least six to eight months prior to the first semester of enrollment (or by departmental deadlines, if earlier). To ensure adequate time for review, all international applications must be completed at least four months before the desired date of registration.

If the applicant's native language is not English, proof of English proficiency in the form of a TOEFL, PTE or IELTS score must be submitted. TOEFL scores must be less than two years old at the time of anticipated enrollment at UA.

Applicants must also provide proof of ability to finance graduate studies by completing the "Information for Certificate of Eligibility of Non-Immigrant Student Status" and "Certification of Finances" forms. Forms are available online at http://graduate.ua.edu/application.
Financial Support for Graduate Students

The University makes major financial awards to graduate students mainly through fellowships and assistantships, totaling over $25 million each year.

- The University awards over 1,500 Teaching and Research Assistantships annually. Each carries a stipend and is accompanied by full tuition and fee scholarships, as well as health insurance. Interested students should contact the department to which they have applied for more information.
- The Graduate School’s annual, nonrenewable Graduate Council Fellowships carry generous stipends, a full tuition grant, and health insurance. Fellowships are awarded on competitive basis, based on department nominations. Many fellowships are awarded to students just beginning their graduate programs. Some fellowships are awarded to students engaged in thesis or dissertation research or projects with a professor.
- McNair Graduate Fellowships provide competitive stipend, a full-tuition scholarship, and health insurance to students from under-represented groups. Preference is given to students interested in pursuing a PhD.
- National Alumni Association Graduate Scholarships and Fellowships are available to Alabama residents.
- The Graduate Student Travel & Research Support Fund combines departmental and graduate school resources to fund over $137,000 in student projects and trips annually.

More Financial Assistance Information

- Financial Aid Resources
- Awards Administered by the University of Alabama Graduate School
- McNair Graduate Fellowship
- Financial Assistance Programs for Minorities
- Southern Regional Education Board
- Alumni Heritage Graduate Scholarship
- Also see: Cost of Attendance
The Catalog is available only online as of Fall 2007 and is updated continually. When the Graduate Council revises a policy, the previous policy and the updated policy (with "effective date") both will appear in the online Catalog. The previous policy will be deleted after 12 months. Any new policy will be inserted at the appropriate place in the Catalog.

» [A-Z Site Index](#) (with links to Graduate Catalog sections, the Graduate School website, departmental websites, and others)


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Campus and Community Life

Arts

On campus, you can experience frequent presentations and performances sponsored by our nationally known UA programs in music, theater, art, book arts, and creative writing. The University sponsors many lectures, research seminars, symposia, and colloquia.

Off-campus offerings include a monthly Art Night highlighting talents of Tuscaloosa-Northport artists, the nationally known folk art festival Kentuck, and performances at the Historic Bama Theatre. From painting to quilting and weaving, several fine art and folk art guilds operate chapters in and around Tuscaloosa.

Athletics, health, and fitness

UA is known nationally for its competitive intercollegiate athletics. We also support many intramural sports and promote fitness with extensive and well-maintained facilities for almost all standard indoor and outdoor sports. Our large Student Recreation Center offers year-round opportunities to stay fit with classes, a variety of courts and exercise equipment, and both indoor and outdoor swimming pools.

Services

Our campus student services include a student health center, counseling service, psychological services, speech and hearing services, career center, Graduate School Office of Minority Student Assistance, Graduate Student Association, Capstone International Center, Student Support Services, Office of Disability Services, Office of Veterans Services, and the Center for Teaching and Learning.
Housing

The University has an outstanding specialty housing program for graduate students. You may select from two types of apartments: one-bedroom, furnished units or larger apartments for students with families. Plentiful, reasonably priced housing is also available in the pleasant neighborhoods nearby.

Community

Tuscaloosa, a city of nearly 100,000, is within an hour’s drive of Birmingham and about four hours from Atlanta, Nashville, and New Orleans. Graduate students enjoy parks, museum, restaurants, shopping malls, and outdoor recreation. The city, which dates to the early 19th century, stands on a bluff of the Black Warrior River, surrounded by lakes, forests, and rolling countryside. Pleasantly situated between the upper elevations of northern Alabama and the coastal lowlands to the south, Tuscaloosa is only a morning’s driver from both mountains and beaches. The climate is mild, with moderate rainfall.
Research and Outreach

From investigating health needs of the elderly to unlocking the complexities of subatomic particles, research of University of Alabama faculty and graduate students pushes past the boundaries of current knowledge and opens new vistas of possibility. Our public service and outreach programs assist many citizens of our country and range from centers that serve infants and young children to those for medical and business communities.

The University Libraries manage more than two million cataloged items, with important special collections in Southern history, literature, and politics, and extensive online resources. The newest additions, the Rodgers Library for Science and Engineering and the Angelo Bruno Business Library, enhance our information services for graduate students.

External funding for teaching, research, and service programs is obtained from federal agencies, state agencies, local government agencies, private enterprises, and foundations. Activities conducted with the use of external funds are as diverse as the sources of the funds. The University annually receives almost $100 million through externally sponsored programs. A few of our many campus programs are as follows:

- The Tom Bevill Energy, Mineral, and Material Science Research Building is the first energy-research center at a southeastern university.

- UA’s aquatic ecology program is the steward of one of only 20 core sites announced in the new NSF NEON (Natural Ecological Observatory Network) program.

- The graduate program in creative writing sponsors the Bankhead Visiting Writers Series, which showcases writers of national and international reputation.

- The University’s Center for Materials for Information Technology (MINT) is one of the world’s leading centers for research on magnetic recording technology and advanced concepts in information storage.

- The Child Development Research Center enhances interdisciplinary research for graduate students and faculty and houses child care facilities for infants, toddler,
and preschoolers.

- The UA Institute for Communication Research is one of the premier facilities for investigating a wide range of communication behaviors.

- The Alabama Institute for Manufacturing Excellence (AIME) advances efficient and environmentally responsible manufacturing technologies.

Perhaps one of the most significant aspects of external support is the funding provided for graduate students. This funding provides monthly stipends for the students, as well as payment of tuition, fees, and health insurance. It gives them excellent opportunities for hands-on experience and research.

For more information, visit: http://www.graduate.ua.edu/research
Graduate School Contact Information

Visit [http://graduate.ua.edu](http://graduate.ua.edu) for information about applications, financial assistance, graduate degree programs, registration, and other aspects of graduate study at The University of Alabama! Or contact us at:

**The Graduate School**

102 Rose Administration Building  
Box 870118, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0118  
**Toll Free:** 1.877.UAGRADS (1.877.824.7237)  
**Telephone:** (205) 348-5921  
**Fax:** (205) 348-0400  
E-mail for U.S. citizens and Permanent Residents: [usgradapply@aalan.ua.edu](mailto:usgradapply@aalan.ua.edu)  
E-mail for international students: [intergradapply@aalan.ua.edu](mailto:intergradapply@aalan.ua.edu)

To contact offices not listed above, telephone our general campus number at (205) 348-6010. For additional information, visit the following:

- [http://ua.edu](http://ua.edu) for The University of Alabama’s home page
● [http://mybama.ua.edu](http://mybama.ua.edu) for a schedule of classes, academic calendar, and other campus information
● [http://www.sa.ua.edu](http://www.sa.ua.edu) for the Office of Student Affairs
● [http://www.tcvb.org](http://www.tcvb.org) for information about Tuscaloosa, Alabama
● Need more specific information? [Submit your inquiry!](#)

Each year, The University of Alabama publishes the [UA Annual Campus Security Report](#). It contains crime statistics for the three most recent calendar years. It also details UA security policies and procedures. The Campus Security Report is provided in accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act and is available online to view or print at [http://safety.ua.edu](http://safety.ua.edu). The Alabama Department of Public Safety, a state agency, also provides an online listing of sex offenders currently registered with the state. This listing is available on the Alabama Department of Public Safety website at [http://www.dps.state.al.us](http://www.dps.state.al.us) (click on the "Sex Offenders" link). For information regarding the enrollment or employment or registered sex offenders at The University of Alabama, or to request a printed copy of the Campus Security Report, write The University of Alabama, University Police, Attention: Community Services Division, Box 870180, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0180.

The University of Alabama complies with applicable laws prohibiting discrimination including Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Executive Order 11246, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1972-1973, the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or services. Inquiries and concerns about discrimination may be directed to Gwendolyn D. Hood, University Compliance Officer, 171 Rose Administration Building, Box 870300, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 35487-0300, (205) 348-5855 (Voice/TDD). MC7601

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Apply Online at: [http://graduate.ua.edu/application/](http://graduate.ua.edu/application/)

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