Dear {a.("NAME\_FIRST")},

We know financial resources are incredibly important to students who are applying to graduate school, and an offer of financial support often leads them to choose that university. The following information is meant to help you make an informed decision regarding the investment you will make in yourself by earning a graduate degree.

Most departments at WSU offer graduate assistantships to select, qualified students admitted to the University. Teaching assistantships are also available through many academic departments. In addition, many departments and special programs offer research assistantships through extramurally funded research grants. Check with your prospective department or program to learn more about these opportunities. Most assistantships include a tuition waiver, health insurance, and a monthly stipend. Graduate assistants are required to work 20 hours per week during the semester in which they receive the assistantship.

There are also a variety of fellowships and scholarships awarded to graduate students based on an assortment of competitive factors. Please note: fellowships and scholarships, like assistantships, are not paid back.

Finally, students enrolled in graduate programs at WSU can fund their education through a combination of student loans and work study. Much grant funding is reserved by the federal and state governments for first-time undergraduate students. However, graduate students may borrow up to $18,500 each school year in Federal Stafford Loans.

If you have questions about paying for graduate school at WSU, feel free to contact me for more infor[mation at raymond@wsu.edu](mailto:raymond@wsu.edu) or 509-335-7702.

Sincerely,

Dr. Raymond Herrera  
Assistant Dean  
Student Recruitment  
Director, McNair Achievement Program