



Statistics: MS

Program Handbook

2026-2027

Statistics

Reference this handbook to learn about the unique policies, requirements, procedures, resources, and norms for graduate students in the Statistics Department.

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Navigating Policy and Resources at UW-Madison

This handbook shares important information specific to your degree program. Refer to it as you become familiar with the policies, procedures, requirements, and resources of graduate education at UW-Madison.



[Graduate Guide](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate)

[UW-Madison Policy Library](http://policy.wisc.edu)

Resources and information curated by the Graduate School for prospective and current students are found the [Graduate School website](#). The [Graduate Student Life website](#) is also maintained by the Graduate School and provides useful information for new graduate students.

Preface

The Department of Statistics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison strives to maintain both instructional and research programs of the highest quality. The MS program provides excellent training in the modern theory, methods and applications of statistics. The Department believes that its graduates should blend a strong theoretical statistics foundation with practical experience working with challenging statistical problems in diverse areas of application. For this reason, the Department's graduate programs, stressing this relationship of theory and practice, are designed to prepare the graduate equally well for an academic, industrial, or governmental position.

The Department would like each graduate student's learning experience in the program to be as productive and rewarding as possible. To help build a successful experience, this handbook has been prepared to provide a variety of information that a graduate student might find useful during their time in the Statistics program. It describes the MS degree programs and requirements, provides academic information such as course descriptions and criteria for satisfactory progress, and offers information about financial support through teaching, research, and project assistantships. The information in this handbook, while extremely useful, should also be supplemented by individual consultation with faculty and staff, and appropriate departmental committees with regard to advising on academic programs and requirements, financial assistantships, and other matters.

Missions and Goals

Statistics MS Program Mission

The MS program in Statistics aims to produce highly trained statistical consultants who will provide excellent statistical expertise through collaboration with individuals from many other disciplines.

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrates understanding of statistical theories, methodologies, and applications as tools in scientific inquiries.
2. Selects and utilizes the most appropriate statistical methodologies and practices.
3. Synthesizes information pertaining to questions in empirical studies.

4. Communicates data concepts and analysis results clearly.
5. Recognizes and applies principles of ethical and professional conduct.

Faculty Advisor

Each student will be assigned a faculty advisor in the graduate program in which they are enrolled. Your faculty advisor(s) will be a key source of guidance for your academic development. The [Graduate School: Advisor](#) policy provides the definition for an advisor. The "[Advising and Mentoring](#)" section provides guidelines for finding, changing, and working with your advisor.

The name and contact information of your faculty advisor is listed on your Student Center on [MyUW](#) under "Academic Progress" and then "Advisors."

Graduate School Services

The Graduate School is available for general inquiries. The contact information for the appropriate office is found on the [Graduate School's website](#).

Department and Program Overview

Please view the [Graduate Guide](#) for an overview of the Statistics department and MS program learning outcomes.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Department of Statistics strives to create a sense of belonging among all students, faculty, and staff. We foster an inclusive environment by treating other members of the department with esteem and respect. We honor diversity in our department and promote this sense of belonging by working together considerably towards our common goals of teaching, community engagement, and scientific innovation. We are dedicated to serving the UW-Madison statement on diversity and are committed to creating an environment where all feel respected and included. Students who need to report an incident, please view the Graduate Guide Grievances and Appeals policies, or contact the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Faculty Research Interests

Please see the [Faculty Research Interests](#) page

Statistics Departmental Staff

A listing of the Statistics Departmental Staff: <https://kb.wisc.edu/stat/104849>

On Campus & In the Community

You will find ways to engage in campus and local community life at: [Graduate School: Support for Your Wellbeing](#).

The Graduate School Office of Access, Engagement and Funding supports students from an array of life experience and backgrounds. This office helps students build a sense of belonging on campus. You can read more about participating in events hosted by the Graduate School at: [Graduate School: Community and Belonging](#).

If you are a student actively involved in leadership and service activities, consider nominating yourself for membership in the following honor society: [Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society](#).

The University has many Professional Development Opportunities and Student Organizations. Please see some links below including the Statistics Graduate Student Association:

- **Graduate School Professional Development:** <https://grad.wisc.edu/professional-development/>
- **SuccessWorks (aka L&S Career Services):** <https://successworks.wisc.edu/>
- **Wisconsin Involvement Network (student orgs):** <https://win.wisc.edu/>
- **Teaching Assistants Association:** <https://taa-madison.org/>
- **Morgridge Center:** <https://morgridge.wisc.edu/>
- **Statistics Graduate Student Association:** <https://sgsa.stat.wisc.edu/#/>

The Graduate School's Current Students Page

grad.wisc.edu/current-students

Computing and IT Resources

[College of CAI IT](#)

Course Descriptions

The Guide (<https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/stat/>), which is the catalog of all UW-Madison programs and courses is a great resource for finding information like course descriptions.

How to Get Involved

As a graduate student at UW-Madison, there are a multitude of opportunities to become involved on campus and in your academic discipline. This involvement often enhances your academic, professional, and personal growth through developing advanced leadership, communication, and collaboration skills. It also provides an opportunity for professional networking.

Getting Started as a Graduate Student

This section guides you through important steps to take as you begin your journey as a graduate student at UW-Madison.

New Graduate Student Checklist

The Graduate School's "[New Students](#)" page has useful information, including the new graduate student checklist. The checklist also links to additional resources for new international students, students with disabilities, student veterans, and students with children: [Graduate School: New Graduate Student Checklist](#).

Graduate Student Portal

The [Graduate Student Portal](#) allows you to complete actions related to your graduate program as well as other resources. You should become familiar with this site as you navigate graduate education. You can also complete the following through this page:

- Submit add/change/discontinuation requests for any major/named option, doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate;
- View status of degree completion warrants;
- Discover professional development opportunities;

Advising and Mentoring

Each student in the MS program is assigned an academic advisor. Students are expected to meet with their advisor each semester prior to course enrollment for advice on selecting courses.

Degree Requirements

MS Degree

Guide information

All students in the Statistics MS program are responsible for staying informed of the following requirements to earn the degree. Current degree requirements, policies, milestones, and learning outcomes are maintained in the Graduate Guide. Please refer to the Statistics MS program page in the Graduate Guide for an overview of the program, degree requirements, policies, and learning outcomes.

Requirements

For all current requirements to earn your degree (e.g., minimum credit requirement, required courses, non-curricular milestones, and learning outcomes/goals, etc.) see your program's page in the Graduate Guide. Navigate to the Graduate [Guide](#), then select "Degrees/Majors," your program's name or the "Named Option" of your program and then "Requirements" from the navigation bar on the right side. You will be taken to a subsection of your program's Guide page, which contains all official requirements for your degree. Similarly, see "Policies" from the navigation bar of your program's page to learn about major-specific policies affecting these requirements (e.g., prior coursework, probation, credits per term allowed, time limits, grievances and appeals, etc.). When you look at the Guide to learn about program requirements, you are viewing the current year's version. To find past versions of program requirements, see the [Guide Archive](#) and search for your program and the year you would like to reference.

Course Requirements (30 CREDITS) [Statistics, MS](#)

Competency Test

The MS Exam will be the responsibility of an MS Exam Committee of faculty members (usually four) appointed by the faculty. Typically, the appointment will be for two years and half the committee will be reappointed each year to provide overlap and continuity. After successfully completing STAT 998, or during the semester in which STAT 998 is taken, the candidate must demonstrate to the MS Exam Committee the potential to be a practicing statistician. The committee is given latitude to decide the details on each occasion as to how this will be done. However, the general form of the competency test (examination) will be as follows:

- a. The candidate will be presented with one or more written problems or projects and asked to provide a brief written report involving a suitable statistical analysis seven days later.
- b. The candidate will meet briefly with the clients related to the projects early in the examination period.
- c. After a further period of time, not to exceed ten days, the candidate will go before the MS Exam Committee for an oral examination based on questions arising from the above problems or projects. It is understood that the area of questioning may be extended to cover additional aspects of the candidate's theoretical or practical background on which satisfaction of competence is considered desirable by the committee.

A candidate may attempt the MS Exam at most twice. If a candidate initially attempts the MS degree exam in the fall and does not pass, a second attempt must be made in the following spring or fall. If a candidate initially attempts the MS degree exam in the spring and does not pass, a second attempt must be made in the following fall or spring. A candidate desiring to take this exam must register with the MS Exam Committee prior to the exam date. Picking up the exam constitutes an attempt regardless of whether or not the examination is submitted for grading.

MS Exam

As mentioned above all MS students will complete the MS exam. If you intend to take the exam, please indicate this during the sign-up period, which will be announced in a future email from the graduate coordinator. **The department generally limits the MS Exam to 12 students per semester.** Please note the date of the last day to cancel the exam without penalty if you sign up and then change your mind. The examination should be treated as confidential and candidates should ensure that no one else reads it until after the oral examinations are completed. In addition, the examination should not be discussed with anyone else until that time, unless permission is obtained from the committee to do otherwise. The only exceptions to this rule involve members of the exam committee. Please sign the honor code form on the day you receive the exam and then again at your oral exam (there are two lines on the form to be signed on the different dates). Due to confidentiality agreements with participating clients we are unable to link to past exams. The exam mimics the three problems assigned in STAT 998 so please consider those as practice.

MS Degree Requirements – Biostatistics Option

Course Requirements (30 CREDITS) [Statistics, MS: Biostatistics](#)

The Biostatistics Degree Option (BDO) is a collaborative program with both the Department of Statistics and Biostatistics and Medical Informatics. Students pursue coursework in theory, methodology, and application of statistics.

Complete your master's degree

You will let the Graduate Coordinator know when you sign up for the MS exam what semester you are intending to graduate (current semester or next), so that they can file the appropriate paperwork with the Graduate School to request your warrant.

(<https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/warrants/>).

The Graduate School has an extensive website regarding completing your master's degree including information on commencement, deadlines, etc.:

<https://grad.wisc.edu/current-students/masters-guide/>.

Application to Statistics PhD from the MS program

Policy effective August 15, 2018

General Principles: Students who successfully complete our MS program (or are very close to completion of the Program) and demonstrate sufficient aptitude to complete our PhD Program are encouraged to continue toward the PhD in our Department. Any necessary and appropriate exemptions to the timing deadlines in our Criteria for Satisfactory Progress will normally be granted. Students who already had a guarantee of support in place as an MS student will be considered for an extension to the guarantee, but new guarantees are not normally granted.

Timing: Applications for PhD student status beginning in the fall semester should be received by no later than January 1, and a decision will be made before the end of the spring semester. No applications to begin in the summer or spring term will be accepted. Please note that students must already hold PhD student status in order to take the Qualifying Exam, based on the term for which they have applied and been admitted. This means that students who are accepted into the PhD program beginning with the fall semester are not eligible to take the Qualifying Exam until the following summer.

Application Procedure: A student currently completing the MS degree in our Department wishing to pursue the PhD here needs to complete the following. All letters should be submitted to the Graduate Student Coordinator.

1. Write a letter addressed to the chairperson of the Graduate Admissions Committee that addresses the following issues:

- a. The student's exact status in the MS degree program. (Is s/he finished or what is left to be completed?)
 - b. The student's goals in seeking the PhD. (Any special interests or possible research objectives should be mentioned.)
 - c. (Optional) Any other information that might be helpful for the committee (not likely to be found in the student's departmental folder).
2. (Optional but recommended) Up to two letters of recommendation from UW faculty attesting to the student's promise for the PhD.

Decision Process: The Graduate Admissions Committee will consider the application. It should be noted that successful completion of the MS degree is not an entitlement to continue for the PhD. Each student's potential for success in the PhD program will be carefully evaluated. Requests will be made for additional material if this might be helpful. If the student had a guarantee of support already in place as an MS student, the decision will include a determination of whether or not the guarantee will be continued for a period of time (normally an additional three years) as a PhD student. All questions relative to this process should be addressed to the Chairperson of the Graduate Admissions Committee and/or the Graduate Student Coordinator.

Academic Policies

Enrollment Requirements

The Graduate School maintains the [official academic and administrative policies](#) relevant to graduate students.

The Graduate School's [Academics page](#) provides important information related to academic matters, policies and academic success. The following links have important information relevant to courses and enrollment that is important for you to be aware of:

- [Enrollment Requirements](#)
- [Late Enrollment, Course Change, or Drop](#)
- [Other Types of Courses](#)
- [Cancel or Withdraw Enrollment](#)

Academic Exception Petitions

Academic exceptions are considered on an individual, case-by-case basis and should not be considered a precedent. Deviations from normal progress are highly discouraged,

but the program recognizes that there are in some cases extenuating academic and personal circumstances. Petitions for course exceptions/substitutions or exceptions to the Satisfactory Progress Expectations (academic or conduct) shall be directed to the Director of Graduate Studies or relevant committee chair (e.g., the Curriculum Chair). The following procedures apply to all petitions:

1. The specific requirement/rule/expectation pertinent to the petition must be identified.
2. The student's academic advisor must provide written support for the petition.
3. All coursework substitutions and equivalencies will be decided by appropriate area-group faculty or curriculum chair.

More generally, the Director of Graduate Studies, in consultation with the student's advisor, may grant extensions to normal progress requirements for students who face circumstances (similar to tenure extensions) as noted in university regulations, this includes childbirth, adoption, significant responsibilities with respect to elder or dependent care obligations, disability or chronic illness, or circumstances beyond one's personal control. Where warranted, the petition should provide good evidence of plans and ability to return to conformance with the standard and to acceptably complete the program. The normal extension will be one semester; anything beyond this will be granted only in the event of highly extraordinary circumstances. Extensions will be granted formally with a note of explanation to be placed in the student's file.

Progress Towards Your Degree

The Graduate School provides relevant information you should be aware of as you [progress towards your degree](#). Students must follow Graduate School policies, program-specific policies and if applicable, employment policies. The following sections highlight two areas related to courses and enrollment.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

The [Graduate School: Satisfactory Progress](#) policy defines what is expected of students to make satisfactory progress toward degree completion. Probation or dismissal from the Graduate School can impact your academic standing, financial aid or funding (consult your sources of funding as applicable). In addition to the Graduate School's monitoring of satisfactory academic progress, this program regularly reviews the satisfactory academic progress of its students, defined as follows.

Your continuation as a graduate student at UW-Madison is at the discretion of your program, the Graduate School, and your faculty advisor. Any student may be placed on probation or dismissed from the Graduate School for not maintaining satisfactory

academic progress, and this can impact your academic standing. Our program has its own definition of satisfactory academic progress and related procedures that supplement Graduate School policy, as described in this section: [Criteria for satisfactory progress for graduate students in the Department of Statistics](#)

Grievances and Appeals

Please see the Graduate School's [Grievances and Appeals](#) page.

Personal Conduct Expectations

Students should avoid even an appearance of improper behavior or lack of ethical standards while in Graduate School at UW-Madison, in all professional settings, and in their personal lives. Students should conduct themselves according to the standards expected of members of the profession to which the student aspires. Concerns about infractions of Professional Conduct may be effectively handled informally between the instructor/advisor and the student. If a resolution is not achieved, a graduate program representative may be included in the discussion. Separate and apart from a violation of Professional Conduct, a student may face University disciplinary action with regard to the same action. Students are responsible for reading the information here as well as the information published on all the relevant web sites. Lack of knowledge of this information does not excuse any infraction.

1. **Professional Ethics:** Students shall show respect for a diversity of opinions, perspectives and cultures; accurately represent their work and acknowledge the contributions of others; participate in and commit to related opportunities; aim to gain knowledge and contribute to the knowledge base of others; understand the UW Student Code of Conduct; represent their profession and the program; and strive to incorporate and practice disciplinary ideals in their daily lives. Resumes/CVs must reflect accurate information.
2. **Honesty and Integrity:** Students shall demonstrate honesty and integrity as shown by their challenging of themselves in academic pursuits; honesty and ethics in research and IRB applications—including honesty in interpretation of data, commitment to an unbiased interpretation of academic and professional endeavors; and the need to document research activities, protect subject/client confidentiality and HIPAA regulations. Students shall follow-through and pull their weight in group

activities and understand where collaboration among students is or is not allowed; not plagiarize others or past work (self-plagiarism), cheat, or purposefully undermine the work of others; and avoid conflicts of interest for the duration of their time in the program. As a professional, honesty and integrity also extends to personal behavior in life outside of the academic setting by realizing that students are representatives of the program, UW-Madison, and the profession as a whole.

3. **Interpersonal and Workplace Relationships:** Students shall interact with peers, faculty, staff and those they encounter in their professional capacity in a manner that is respectful, considerate, and professional. This includes and is not limited to attending all scheduled meetings, honoring agreed upon work schedules, being on-time and prepared for work/meetings, contributing collaboratively to the team, keeping the lines of communication open, offering prompt response to inquiries, and employing respectful use of available equipment/technology/resources. Chronic or unexplained absences are unprofessional in the workplace and could be grounds for termination or removal of funding. To facilitate the free and open exchange of ideas, any criticism shall be offered in a constructive manner, and the right of others to hold different opinions shall be respected.
4. **Commitment to Learning:** Students are expected to meet their educational responsibilities at all times. Be actively prepared for class and be ready for questions and answers. Be on time for every class and always show courtesy during class or if you have to leave class early. If possible, students should notify the instructor at least one day in advance of a planned absence. Students who are unable to attend class are responsible for finding out what occurred that day and should not expect instructors to give them individual instruction. Recognizing that the pursuit of knowledge is a continuous process, students shall show commitment to learning by persevering despite adversity and seeking guidance in order to adapt to change. Students shall strive for academic excellence and pursue and incorporate all critique, both positive and negative, in the acquisition of knowledge in order to understand and respect the community in which they work.
5. **Professional Appearance:** Students shall convey a positive, professional appearance in order to represent the program in a dignified manner. Appearance includes a person's dress, hygiene, and appropriate etiquette/protocols for the

environment (including safety protocols and protective clothing in environments that require them).

This graduate program, the Graduate School, and the Division of Student Life all uphold the UW-System policies and procedures in place for academic and non-academic misconduct. In addition, graduate students are held to the same standards of responsible conduct of research as faculty and staff. Furthermore, unprofessional behavior towards clients/subjects, faculty, staff, peers and public are significant issues in the evaluation and promotion of students. In turn, we hold expectations for the highest level of academic integrity and expect professional, ethical, and respectful conduct in all interactions. Students may be disciplined or dismissed from the graduate program for misconduct or disregard for professional conduct expectations regardless of their academic standing in the program. Separate and apart from a violation of Professional Conduct, a student may face University disciplinary action with regard to the same action. Students are responsible for reading the information here as well as the information published on all the relevant web sites. Lack of knowledge of this information does not excuse any infraction.

Professional Conduct

The [Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards](#) maintains detailed guidance on [student rights and responsibilities](#) related to learning in a community that is safe and fosters integrity and accountability. You are responsible for keeping aware of their [policies and procedures](#).

Academic Misconduct

[Academic misconduct](#) is governed by state law, UW System Administration Code Chapter 14. For further information on this law, what constitutes academic misconduct, and procedures related to academic misconduct, see:

Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards

- [Academic Misconduct Definition](#)
- [Student Resources for Academic Integrity](#)
- [Academic Misconduct Process at UW-Madison UWS Chapter 14](#)

University of Wisconsin System (UWS): [Chapter 14: Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures](#)

Non-Academic Misconduct

[Non-academic misconduct](#) is governed by state law, UW System Administration Code Chapters 17 and 18. For further information on these laws, what constitutes non-academic misconduct, and procedures related to non-academic misconduct, see:

Office for Student Conduct and Community Standards: [Student Nonacademic Disciplinary Procedures](#)

University of Wisconsin System (UWS)

- [Chapter 17: Student Non-Academic Disciplinary Procedures](#)
- [Chapter 18: Conduct on University Lands](#)

Research Misconduct

Trust in the accuracy and veracity of the scholarly record are fundamental to science. When that record is tainted, whole fields of study can be set back or questioned. Moreover, when scientists have been found to engage in misconduct, partners and the public lose faith in the ability of all scientists to address society's grand challenges.

The [Faculty Legislation II-314: Misconduct in Scholarly Research](#) policy defines research misconduct. The policy applies to all those involved in the research process including graduate students. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research's [Research Misconduct page](#) is another resource that provides the definitions, applicability and confidentiality in research misconduct proceedings.

If you have questions or concerns about research misconduct or integrity, this can be discussed confidentially with the Research Integrity Officer (rio@research.wisc.edu).

Hostile and Intimidating Behavior (Bullying)

Hostile and intimidating behavior (HIB), sometimes referred to as "bullying," is prohibited by university policy applicable to faculty, academic staff, and university staff. Refer to the Graduate School's [Reporting Incidents page](#) for further definition, policy, and procedures. Students who are employees and feel they have been subject to HIB in the workplace are encouraged to review the [Hostile and Intimidating Behavior website](#) for information about the [informal](#) and [formal](#) approaches and investigations to take in addressing hostile and intimidating behavior.

Reporting Incidents (Harassment, Discrimination and Bias, Hostile and Intimidating Behavior, Sexual

Harassment, Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking)

The Graduate School's page ([Reporting Incidents](#)) directs you to the appropriate links for reporting incidents.

Other important resources on campus include:

- [Office of Student Assistance and Support – Share a Concern](#) (this page allows you to share a general concern and learn how to report other incidents on campus)
- [Office of Compliance](#)
- [Sexual Misconduct Resource and Response Program](#)

As noted above in [Personal Conduct Expectations section](#), students who feel they have been subject to hostile and/or intimidating behavior (i.e., bullying) are encouraged to review the informal and formal options for addressing this behavior (including filing complaints when desired) at: [Human Resources Hostile and Intimidating Behavior – Addressing HIB](#).

Funding Information and Resources

"Funding" is a term used to describe university employment or support to cover some or all of your costs of graduate education. It varies in kind, amount, and level of guarantee.

The Graduate School maintains policies related to graduate student funding/employment:

Enrollment Requirements for Graduate Assistants

policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1208

Eligibility for Summer RA, TA, PA, and LSA Appointments

policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-5089

Guaranteed Funding

TA/PA/RA Funding in Statistics Department

Many students in Statistics are funded through the department. Information specific to your funding can be found in your offer letter and TA appointment contract. For

information on TA expectations please see the Statistics department KnowledgeBase at <https://kb.wisc.edu/stat/internal/104851>. Students funded outside of Statistics should contact that department for funding information.

Finding Funding Without a Guaranteed Appointment

Campus-Wide and External Sources

To help you find resources to pay for costs related to graduate education, the Graduate School provides a comprehensive overview of the funding process on campus as well as descriptions of the types of funding available, sources of funding, [minimum stipend rates and benefits](#), and links to applicable human resources policies (e.g. GAPP) at the [Funding and Awards](#) page.

See the [Graduate School's Fellowships](#) page, including the [Funding Forward](#) program from the Graduate School that equips and empowers graduate students to compete for external fellowships, for information and resources about fellowships (another source of financial support for graduate study).

Additional Policies and Resources

[Residence for Tuition Purposes](#)

[Employee Disability Resources](#)

[Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures \(GAPP\)](#)

Professional Development

When you participate in professional development, you build skills needed to succeed academically and thrive in your career. The following are professional development activities that we recommend for your consideration. Required professional development will be detailed in ["Degree Requirements" section](#) above.

On Campus

The Graduate School develops and curates a wide variety of resources for professional development as well as programming to help you explore careers, prepare for a job search, build your network and learn from alumni, manage projects, communicate about your research, and much more. All of this can be found at: [Graduate School's Professional Development](#).

Individual Development Plan (IDP)

This tool helps you assess your skills, set goals, and create a plan with recommended activities on campus.

Through clear guidance and helpful resources, you'll learn how an IDP helps you set goals, stay focused, and make steady progress through graduate school and beyond, using a simple approach: **assess, write, discuss, implement, and revise**.

The micro-course, *Creating your Individual Development Plan*, is a great way to start your IDP today.

DiscoverPD

DiscoverPD helps master's and doctoral students at UW-Madison advance their academic and professional goals with customized recommendations based on a skills self-assessment. The 400+ professional development recommendations available in the DiscoverPD database are available in a range of formats to best meet your diverse needs, including in-person, virtual, asynchronous, and synchronous opportunities. You can also access DiscoverPD through your [Graduate Student Portal](#).

Free Career- and Skill-Building Memberships

UW-Madison graduate students and postdocs have access to a variety [of free memberships and online tools](#) to build their skills, explore career options, and more. For example:

- Beyond Graduate School is a one-of-a-kind career platform for **master's students** to explore career options and learn proven job search strategies. Visit [Beyond Graduate School](#), select University of Wisconsin-Madison, and enter your institutional login information.
- Beyond the Professoriate's Career Training Platform helps **PhD students and postdocs** successfully transition into academic or nonacademic careers. Visit [Beyond the Professoriate](#), select University of Wisconsin-Madison, and enter your institutional login information.
- [LinkedIn Learning](#) offers a full library of self-study courses available anytime, covering topics such as software, programming, productivity, design, project management, public speaking, and more. Different courses are geared toward all levels of experience from beginner to expert and can be completed at each learner's own pace.

Delta Program in Research, Teaching, and Learning

Teaching and mentoring related professional development and training is offered by many collaborators across campus, including the Graduate School; the [Center for Teaching, Learning, and Mentoring](#); [WISCIENCE](#), and others.

The [Delta Program in Research, Teaching, and Learning](#) in the Graduate School engages graduate students and postdocs in professional development in teaching, mentoring, and outreach. Through Delta's certificate, courses, seminars, internship program, and workshops, participants gain skills in evidence-based teaching and mentoring, necessary to become effective and inclusive researchers, educators, and mentors across the nation and world. Highlights include:

- [Research Mentor Learning Communities](#), based on a nationally-recognized curriculum, give graduate students and postdocs concrete tools to support a successful mentor-mentee relationship.
- The [Certificate in Higher Education Teaching and Learning](#), which represents commitment to excellence as an educator and prepares leaders who promote inclusive and effective educational experiences at the college level.
- Impactful [Delta courses](#), including:
 - Teaching in Science and Engineering: The College Classroom
 - Active Learning Laboratory
 - Expeditions in Evidence-Based Teaching and Learning
 - Improv to Improve Science Communication and Teaching.

[Sign up for Delta's mailing list](#) or read *GradConnections Weekly* to learn about opportunities as soon as they are announced.

GradConnections

The Graduate School communicates professional development opportunities through an e-newsletter, *GradConnections*, that all graduate students receive at their wisc.edu email. Graduate students in traditional graduate degree programs receive the newsletter weekly during the academic year and every other week in the summer. Graduate students in online degree programs receive the newsletter twice per semester during the academic year and once during the summer.

Additional Resources

There are several other resources available to graduate students throughout campus. The Graduate Guide's [Student Affairs page](#) lists many programs and campus units that serve students. This handbook would like to highlight the following offices.

McBurney Disability Resource Center

The [McBurney Disability Resource Center](#) provides support for disability-related student accommodations. This office can help you explore disability-related accommodations and answer questions or concerns about accommodations.

Office of Student Assistance and Support (OSAS)

The [Office of Student Assistance and Support](#) connects you with the support you need. The office's website allows you to [fill out a form](#) to connect with staff to help you find options and resources. The website also connects you to resources related to [food access](#), [housing and financial support](#), and [other common inquiries](#).

University Health Services (UHS)

[University Health Services](#) (UHS) provides high-quality medical and prevention services, including confidential, no-cost care [mental health care](#) for students. This includes access to individual counseling, group counseling and well workshops, and more. Students also have access to UWill and Let's Talk.

UWill

All UW students have access to [UWill](#), a free, flexible virtual counseling service. This is accessible 24/7 and does not require an appointment to access. Typically, appointments are available within 24 hours.

Let's Talk

[Let's Talk](#) provides free, confidential consultations with a UHS staff member. These are available in-person or virtually. See the [schedule on website](#) for times and locations.