

Graduate Student Supplements (GRASS)

Answers given by Board of Regents staff in response to questions in response to the GRASS Request for Proposals (RFP) as of **September 15, 2026**.

Proposals Due: October 23, 2026

Question:

My question pertains to the eligibility criteria for students. Under the "Award Information" Section it states "Students who hold fellowships with no work requirements are not eligible to receive these supplements. It is not the purpose of these funds to support students already fully funded by another federal/state agency," but the eligibility sections states preference is given for student who are PhD students in relevant STEM Disciplines, which are almost always funded students. Is the intention that students funded with a GRASS award are PhD students who do not have any funding sources, or are students who receive funding through a Graduate Research Assistantship eligible? Later in the section there are references to GRASS augmenting student payment, which I presume would be from some other funding source. Hopefully this conveys my confusion regarding the language and eligibility.

Answer:

No, GRASS is not intended to support students with no existing research funding. GRASS is intended to supplement an existing source of funds such as a research fellowship or research assistantship. This program seeks to attract and retain outstanding graduate students.

Question:

I am writing to you because last year (2025) a call for applications called Graduate Student Supplements (GRASS) was released, which unfortunately I wasn't able to apply for at the time.

My question is: will this call for applications also be open this year 2026?

Answer:

Yes, GRASS is currently open and accepting applications. Please see our website, [LA-NEXT Funding Opportunities – LA Office of Sponsored Programs](#).

Question:

The PI and his student are recipients of 2026 GRASS grant funds. The term of the grant ends December 31, 2026. He is interested in applying for a renewal which is explained in the RFP. A question has arisen, however. The student who is currently working with him will be graduating in May of 2027. Can the PI apply for a funding renewal for continuation of this project given this timeline?

Answer:

Unfortunately, this program is for one year. Therefore, this student would not be eligible.

Question:

I have a question about the suggested timeline for the GRASS program. As I read it, the criteria say that preference is given to faculty in their first/second year but also for PhD students close to graduation. How does this typically work?

I am a new faculty at Tulane; I'll be hiring graduate students beginning in January 2027 and am interested in this program.

Answer:

Preference may be given to two categories: early career faculty and PhD students that are near graduation. These are among the factors that may be considered in the review process but are not required for consideration.

Question:

My PI is currently an assistant professor within her first five years and is still using start-up funding to support my research. I am currently working 40 hours per week as a research assistant. In this situation, would I still be eligible to apply for this GRASS fund?

I am currently studying in the United States on an F-1 visa. Would my visa status affect my eligibility to apply for this GRASS fund?

Answer:

Yes, a research assistant working full-time (20 hours/week) is eligible for GRASS. There are no citizenship requirements.

Question:

I am interested in submitting a proposal to the FY 2026–27 GRASS program. However, when I log into LOGAN, I do not see a GRASS submission option (you can see below captured page).

Could you please let me know whether the GRASS submission module has not yet been opened, or if there is another process I should follow?

I also noticed that the MS form available on the GRASS webpage appears to be different from the form included at the end of the RFP (PDF). Could you please confirm which version applicants should use?

Answer:

The GRASS module is now active in LOGAN. Please let us know if you have any further issues accessing the proposal module. The forms at the end of the RFP are the correct forms. MS word forms have been updated on the website, [LA-NEXT Funding Opportunities – LA Office of Sponsored Programs](#).

Question:

In the application for GRASS 2026, there is a section called "Personal Information." I am from Colombia (Latin America), but in this section, there is no option related to Latin America. What should I select then? Could I add the option?

Answer:

Yes, you can add that option.

Question:

The only options to the online application on LOGAN are institutional log in and PI log in. I do not know whether I have to complete the student application through my PI or submit a separate application. The option for the institutional login requires the institutional password, which I do not know or have access to.

I would be grateful if you could help clarify whether as a student, I am to complete my GRASS application through my PI or individually or through the institution.

Answer:

The GRASS proposal should be completed by the Principal Investigator and submitted to the institutional sponsored programs office. The sponsored programs office will officially submit the proposal to the Board of Regents. Please contact your OSP office if you have additional questions about this process.

Question:

I am interested in applying for the grass program, but I need some clarifications on the following questions:

- Are international students (non-US citizen, non-permanent resident)
- Are we expected to include preliminary data in the proposal?

Answer:

There are no citizenship requirements to be eligible for GRASS. Please refer to Section B.8 Proposal Format for proposal requirements.

Question:

The document states that participating in the LA-NEXT annual meeting is mandatory and that funds must be allocated for it, but I haven't been able to find information about this event. I'm not sure if there is a registration fee, etc.

What amount should we allocate for this event to comply with the guidelines of the call?

Answer:

The LA-NEXT annual meeting will be held in April 2027 in Baton Rouge. Registration information will be sent to all recipients of LA-NEXT awards as soon as it becomes available. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided at the meeting. Registration is free. Travel funds are to be allocated for lodging and mileage expenses, if needed. Please refer to the state travel guidelines for costing purposes, [PPM 49 - TRAVEL GUIDE - Louisiana Division of Administration](#).

Question:

Can I submit both a new application for another student and renewal of the current one at the same time for this call?

Answer:

Per the RFP, "To maximize the statewide impact of the supplements, each PI is limited to 1 application."