



To: Department Chairs and Department Administrators

Key takeaways:

- Department/program block allocations are now available on the [Go.Grad website](#).
- All 2026–27 block grant funds must be allocated to students by **February 5, 2027**.
- Funding for **Graduate Dean's Scholar Awards (GDSA)**, **recruitment visit funding**, and **Dissertation Year Awards (DYA)** has been consolidated into the block allocation.
- After this year, programs will **no longer be able to carry forward** unspent block funds.

Dear Colleagues:

The Division of Graduate Education (DGE) is pleased to announce block allocations for 2026–27 and share updates to graduate student support.

Your department's allocation is available for viewing and download on the [Go.Grad website](#). Department SAOs or managers should have access to the system. For assistance accessing Go.Grad, email Chris Testa at AskGrad@grad.ucla.edu or submit a request through the [Graduate Education Portal](#).

Changes to Graduate Student Support

As part of efforts to simplify and stabilize graduate student funding, allocations for **Graduate Dean's Scholar Awards (GDSA)**, **Dissertation Year Awards (DYA)**, and **recruitment visit funding** have been consolidated into a single block allocation, added to each program's base amount (set at 2025–26 levels). This change gives academic units greater **local control** over how to use their funding to best support students. Programs now have more flexibility to determine how these resources are distributed across awards and to tailor funding to their students' needs.

DGE encourages programs to think strategically about how their block funding supports students through to degree completion, particularly now that central Dissertation Year Awards have been discontinued and the funds added to the block allocation.

After this year's November 19 deadline, programs will no longer be able to carry forward their block allocation, so all 2026–27 block grant funds (including those carried forward from 2025–26) must be fully expended by the February 5, 2027, award deadline. To maintain flexibility, DGE will continue to allow borrowing of up to **\$80,000** against future allocations.

More information is available in the [Block Allocation article](#) on the Graduate Education Portal.

Key Deadlines

- **Final Year for Carryforward Requests:** Submit by **November 19, 2025**, (extended from the earlier communicated date) via the [Graduate Education Portal](#) or email Sherman Chew at AskGrad@grad.ucla.edu with the subject line “Block Carryforward Request.” Include the exact amount requested. Any carryforward this year must be fully used in 2026–27.
- **Borrowing Requests:** Submit an email by **November 4, 2026**, to Sherman Chew at AskGrad@grad.ucla.edu with the subject line “Block Borrow Request.”
- **Allocation Deadline:** All 2026–27 block funds must be allocated to students by **February 5, 2027**.

Doctoral Travel Grants

DGE will continue providing **\$1,000** in travel or professional development funding for new doctoral students, usable within the first seven years of their program. This information is automatically included in admission letters for eligible students.

For complete details, visit the [Doctoral Student Travel Grant article](#) on the Graduate Education Portal or review the [2026–27 Graduate Student Financial Support Booklet](#).

Brian Kite

Dean and Vice Provost of Graduate Education

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