

### **GRADUATE ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

The flexible and affordable step to achieving your degree.



# PREPARE FOR YOUR FUTURE

Whether you're wrapping up your senior year or already graduated: *Congratulations!* Finishing college is a major accomplishment and undertaking.

Right now, you're probably trying to figure out what to do next—and maybe you're considering higher education as an option.

If you are, imagine earning a graduate degree through a program that offers you

- financial ease,
- courses that are challenging and engaging,
- and a community of Christian leaders and thinkers to lean on.

Is your interest piqued yet?

Consider the **Graduate Assistant (GA) Program**, which was created for someone just like you! As a GA at PCC/PTS, you'll learn from dedicated professionals who care about you personally and professionally, helping you succeed in your field. You'll also get to network and create lifelong connections with your classmates and coworkers.

Simply put, you'll receive an education with real-life opportunities and application.

One of the best parts? You'll gain all of the above *without* seeing a tuition bill, helping you to graduate debt-free! As you work, you'll be able to save most of the money you earn, preparing your financial foundation for the rest of your life.

### CHOOSE **YOUR** DEGREE

### And broaden your path

A graduate degree offers you new opportunities to explore your interests or hone your current skills. As you look through each option, prayerfully consider which one could be perfect for you!



### **Graduate Studies**

#### **Business Administration, M.B.A.**

- Average time to finish 2-3 years

Specialization: Information Technology Management

### **Curriculum and Instruction, M.S.**

- Average time to finish 2 years
- Typical schedule 4 semesters + 1 or 2 summers

#### Specializations:

Elementary · English · History Mathematics · Music · Science · Speech

### **Curriculum and Instruction, Ed.S.**

- Average time to finish 2.5 years
- Typical schedule 4 semesters + 2 summers beyond the M.S.

### Specializations:

Elementary · English · History · Science

### Dramatics, M.F.A.

- Average time to finish 3 years
- Typical schedule 6 semesters + 2 summers

### **Educational Leadership, M.S.**

- Average time to finish 2 years
- Typical schedule 4 semesters + 1 summer

#### **Educational Leadership, Ed.S.**

- Average time to finish 2.5 years
- Typical schedule 4 semesters + 2 summers beyond the M.S.

### Graphic Design, M.A.

- Average time to finish 2 years
- Typical schedule 4 semesters

### **Graphic Design, M.F.A.**

- Average time to finish 3 years
- Typical schedule 2 semesters + 1 summer + 1 Pre-term or Interterm beyond the M.A.

### Music, M.A.

- Average time to finish 2 years
- Typical schedule 4 semesters + 1 summer

### Nursing, M.S.N.

- Average time to finish 2 years
- Typical schedule 4 semesters + 1 summer

### Studio Art, M.A.

- Average time to finish 2 years
- Typical schedule 4 semesters

### Studio Art, M.F.A.

- Average time to finish 3 years
- Typical schedule 2 semesters + 1 summer + 1 Pre-term or Interterm beyond the M.A.

A limited number of doctoral graduate assistantships may also be available. Contact the Seminary-Graduate Studies Office at PTS-Grad@pcci.edu or 850-478-8496, ext. 5241, for details.

### CHOOSE YOUR DEGREE cont.

### And develop your ministry

A seminary degree is a fantastic foundation for your ministry, teaching position, or your desire to dig deeper into the Word of God.



go.pcci.edu/Seminary

### **Seminary**

### Bible Exposition, M.A.

- Average time to finish 2 years
- 1 summer

### Biblical Languages, M.A.

- Average time to finish 2 years
- Typical schedule 4 semesters + 1 summer

#### Church Music, M.C.M.

- Average time to finish 2 years

### Divinity, M.Div.

- Average time to finish 3 years
- Typical schedule 6 semesters + 3 summers. dependent upon any earned Advanced Standing credits



### FINANCE YOUR DEGREE

### **SCHOLARSHIP**

The GA Program includes a scholarship to help cover the expenses of completing a graduate degree. The scholarship assists you in two areas:

#### **Tuition**

**Your tuition and program fees will be paid in full by your GA scholarship.** Depending on the program you choose, based on the 2023–2024 pricing, the tuition portion of the scholarship is valued between \$13,284 and \$43,394.

### **Living Costs**

A portion of your housing and meal costs will be covered by your scholarship.

### SAMPLE VALUE OF THE PROGRAM

over two school years

The GA scholarship covers your tuition, fees, and even most of your living cost—leaving you with minimal out-of-pocket costs. **Your scholarship value is over \$20,000!** 

Pay (28 hours of work per week at \$13 per hour)*	\$29.848
Pay (28 nours of work per week at \$13 per nour).	<b>ა</b> გგუ.040

Scholarship (tuition, fees, meals, and a portion of housing) \$22,028

Total \$51,876

<sup>\*</sup>International students are limited to working 20 hours a week.



### **ENJOY YOUR BENEFITS**

### **WORK PLACEMENT & HOURS**

In addition to the GA scholarship, you'll work **20–28 hours** per week, depending on your academic program and citizenship.

In any of the positions you hold, you'll gain valuable work experience. There are a diverse range of work areas—like Security and Facilities Management or Abeka Publishing, education, and Advertising. You may be placed in more than one area, depending on the need.

Your on-campus job will also give you essential leadership training and roles. You won't just be making money—you'll be learning and growing, adding skills to your résumé, all while working in a Christ-centered environment.

**Note:** Work placement is based on ministry needs and may vary each semester. Because these needs can change quickly, you will be informed of your job placement the week before the semester starts.

### PAY

Your starting pay will be \$13 an hour for the work you do as described under **Work Placement & Hours**. If you consider the value of the GA scholarship in addition to the compensation you receive for your work, the actual value is much greater than \$13 an hour.

To increase your yearly earnings, you may also choose to work during the summers and earn \$14 an hour, up to \$560 a week!

### **HOUSING**

If you're a single GA, your housing arrangement will be provided by the College when you start. You'll stay on campus with a roommate for \$125 a month, utilities and furnishings included. After your contract begins, on-campus housing is free for the summer months you are here.

For married GAs, some housing may be available. Reach out to the Housing Coordinator at **HousingCoordinator@pcci.edu** for more details!





### **YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

### Do I have to work during the summer?

No, but summer work positions are available to increase your earnings.

### How do I maintain my GA position?

Agree to a 2- or 3-year contract (depending on the program of study) and keep a 3.0 GPA (2.0 for M.Div. degree). Stay in good standing at work, complete your degree in the specified time given in your contract, and follow the policies outlined in the Graduate Assistant Handbook on Eagle's Nest.

#### What fees are not covered?

Although every fee related to earning your graduate degree is covered by your GA scholarship, students who fail a course are responsible for the cost of retaking it.

### When would I begin?

Generally, you'll sign a contract that begins in August and requires attendance at the opening All Personnel Fellowship (usually two weeks before the fall semester starts). In some circumstances, you may request to begin in January.

### What are my financial obligations?

You will be responsible for housing (\$125 per month for single GAs; see question below about housing), books, and other class supplies. Since your assistantship is a scholarship, you will not be taxed on its value. You may eat all meals in the dining halls free of charge. Because employer-provided meals are taxable, outside of the M–F lunch, a small tax (usually less than 40 cents per meal) is deducted from your paystub.

#### Will I have summer classes?

All degree programs except M.A. in Studio Art and M.A. in Graphic Design will have between one and four 9-day classes during the summer.

### Is housing available for married GAs?

Yes, but housing is not guaranteed. Talk to the Housing Coordinator about your specific circumstances, and we will do our best to accommodate your needs. Housing for families with children is not available if both spouses are graduate assistants, and housing is not available if either spouse is an undergraduate.

### Will I attend Campus Church?

Yes. Unless you are earning a seminary degree and have received prior approval to intern at a local church, you will attend Campus Church. There are many exciting opportunities for you to get involved and become part of the church family!

### Do I get a vacation?

Yes! You'll receive a two-week unpaid vacation between semesters at Christmas, generally starting the week before Christmas and ending the day after New Year's.

As a 10-month employee, your only responsibilities in the summer are summer classes. You may choose to work during the weeks that you are not taking classes.



### Let's get started!

### **APPLY FOR A DEGREE**

Apply for your graduate or seminary degree and indicate your interest in the GA Program at **go.pcci.edu/GraduateAssistant**.

## Now is the ideal time to invest in your future. Don't wait!

**Justin Ludka** *Master of Divinity '20* 

In this program, I had no overhead educational costs besides books and supplies, allowing me to focus on education and ministry rather than worry about bills. With our combined incomes, my wife and I have no debt and were able to put money into savings each month while I was still in seminary—something that would not be possible without the GA Program.



Amanda Perez M.S. in Educational Leadership '20

Being able to work while taking classes gave me peace of mind that when I graduated with my master's degree, I would be debt-free and prepared to start my career in education. Not only did the courses and coursework prepare me for a future role as an administrator, but they also gave me a deeper understanding of the functioning of a school.



