

GAFAC FUNDING

Student Activities & Student Organizations

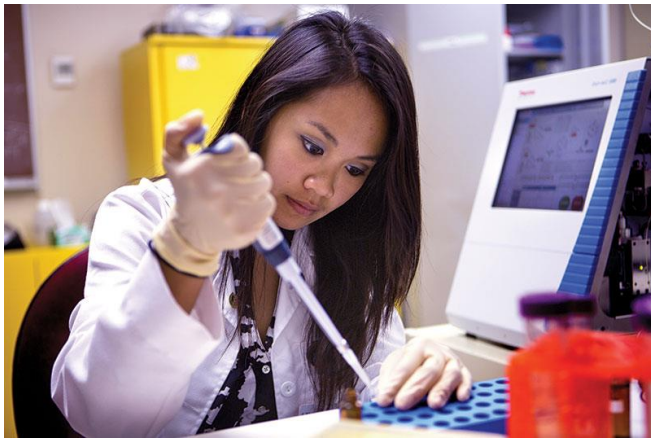


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What is GAFAC?

THE GRADUATE ACTIVITY FEE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE (GAFAC) OVERSEES ALLOCATING THE GRADUATE ACTIVITY FEE'S REMAINING UNALLOCATED FUNDS.

ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS, FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME, WHO HAVE PAID THE GRADUATE ACTIVITY FEE FOR ALL ENROLLED SEMESTERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR SUPPORT (RSMAS, SCHOOL OF LAW, AND MILLER SCHOOL OF MEDICINE STUDENTS ARE EXEMPT.)





Committee Members



Graduate students from eight different institutions and colleges make up GAFAC, and one representative comes from the Graduate Student Association (GSA)



From 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on alternate Tuesdays, the committee will convene.



GAFAC reimburse funds from:

Conferences/Exhibitions
Performances
Reusable Equipment
Field research & filmmaking
Events
Publication (excluding thesis/dissertation)

Application

- Students must submit a GAFAC application online
 - www.miami.edu/gafac

To complete the application, you will need the following:

- Paid Graduate Activity Fee
- Documentation of conference with dates
- Invitation to present letter (if presenting)
- Rejection and or Acceptance of funding from department or other funding sources such as Kriloff (Arts & Science students only)
- Express goals and how funding this experience will be beneficial to your professional development.
- Finally, once application is complete, with respect to deadlines, you will then receive an email to schedule your Zoom meeting before the GAFAC committee.



What is the Rationale Behind Funding Decisions?

- GAFAC's main goal is to make sure that funds will be used to professionally develop students in an impactful way.
- Candidates must provide answers to several questions both in the online application and during their presentation to the committee.
- These committee will want responses to the following questions:
 - Tell us about the endeavor that you plan to participate in.
 - How will this trip/ endeavor benefit your academic experience?
 - How will this trip/ endeavor benefit the University of Miami?

GAFAC members will be able to judge the legitimacy of each request and reach a conclusion based on the responses to these and other questions. Money is distributed on a first-come, first-served basis until funds have been exhausted.

Once all funds have been depleted for the academic year, funding will cease. Like any source, GAFAC has a funding capacity limit.



GAFAC FAQs...



How Much Funding is Available?

- Each student is entitled to \$500 per academic year.
- Since GAFAC budget is limited, it is possible that funds may be depleted before the end of the academic year.



**LIMITED
AVAILABILITY**



Do I Need to Have Applied to Other Sources for Funding Prior to Seeking Funds from GAFAC?

- **GAFAC is last resort for funding.**
- You must seek funding from your department, Kriloff (for Arts & Sciences students only), and any other grants or funding options.
- The application must be have copies of requests for alternative funding that have been approved and or denied.

What Happens During the Summer?

- Summer applications will be considered in the fall as the committee does not meet during the summer semesters.
- Typically, the application must be submitted before attending the event.



What if I Haven't Paid the Graduate Activity Fee for all Enrolled Semesters?

If you visit Student Accounts in the Ashe Building and ask to pay the cost for each semester you are enrolled in, you can still apply.

Any fees must be paid at least a week before an application is submitted.

GAFAC is funded by the Graduate Activity Fee. This is why **only** students who have paid the Graduate Activity Fee for the semester may apply.

The current fee is \$46.00. Paying this fee, gives the opportunity to request \$500.00 from GAFAC, if your expenses warrant it.



How Will I Know What the Committee Decides?

- After you have presented, you will receive approval or rejection within 2 weeks
- This occurs after unanimous committee approval and sign-off by the Vice-President



IF APPROVED, WILL I RECEIVE THE MONEY IN ADVANCE?

No. GAFAC works on a reimbursement basis. Once your endeavor has ended, you will have 30 days to submit your receipts for reimbursement.

Failure to submit receipts 30 days from the conclusion of your endeavor, could mean forfeiture of funding.

Additional FAQs...

- **If I was approved as a group prior, can I apply with a different group in the same year?** – No, an individual cannot receive funding more than once in the same year, even if they were a part of a group
- **What if my department hasn't approved or rejected me for funding yet?** – That is fine! You are able to be heard and approved conditionally, however you must submit documentation within 5 business days after your conference to receive funding.
- **Does only one person in my group need to show up to the meeting?** – Everyone must show up to the meeting to receive approval, if a member does not show up they will not be included in the group reimbursement
- **What if I applied before, but I want to submit an application for a different conference?** – As long as your prior application was not approved in the past year, you are more than welcome to apply as many times as you'd like





Email Us at GAFAC@miami.edu