

January 19, 2023

Dear Graduate Students:

On behalf of President Jarrell and our leadership team including each of our deans, I am pleased to inform you that we have developed a plan to gradually increase our Graduate Assistantship (GA) stipends to bring them into alignment with our competitive institutional peers and the cost-of-living index. We will increase stipends for Graduate Research Assistants (GRA), Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTA), and Graduate Research and Teaching Assistants (GRTA) enrolled in UMB graduate programs 7.5% retroactive to September 1, 2022. The increase, including the retroactive amount, will be included in your February 2nd payroll check. This increase is in line with COLA increases to employees in 2022 and will help our GAs pay fees not currently covered by their stipend.

This increase to the stipends is an acknowledgement that we have fallen behind our institutional peers and that we need a transparent annual stipend review process tied to our institutional budget development cycle to ensure that our stipends remain competitive. We intend to work collaboratively with the Graduate Assistants Advisory Committee (GAAC) to design and establish the annual review process.

I wish to acknowledge and thank the members of the GAAC for their commitment to the students they serve and for maintaining a healthy and productive relationship with university leadership. Graduate Assistants as students contribute significantly to the success of our research mission and we recognize and value that contribution. As such, we will always remain committed to finding mutually beneficial solutions to the challenges faced by our graduate students.

Sincerely,



Roger J. Ward, EdD, JD, MSL, MPA
Provost and Executive Vice President
Dean, Graduate School