

Financing Your Ed.L.D Education

2025–2026



The HGSE Ed.L.D. Funding Offer

HGSE guarantees that all incoming Ed.L.D. students will receive funding to fully cover all tuition and mandatory health fees during the three-year program. In addition, during your first year we will provide you with stipend support that closely meets our estimate of living expenses for a single student. In the 2025-2026 academic year, the first-year stipend amount will be \$31,000 and it will be paid to you in 9 monthly installments from September to May. In year two, comparable living expense support will be provided via a combination of a \$31,000 stipend in addition to teaching fellowship and/or research assistantship opportunities. In year three, you will engage in a 10-month paid residency with compensation of approximately \$85,000 (final amount to be determined depending on the residency year). It is important to note that your continued eligibility for this funding package is contingent upon your maintained satisfactory academic progress; you will not be required to file any financial aid application materials unless you wish to apply for supplemental student loans, as described later in this guide.

How Much Does a Year at HGSE Cost?

As a HGSE student, you will be enrolled for approximately 9 to 10 months each year; the cost estimates that follow include tuition, health fees, related educational expenses, and estimated living expenses for a single student. Our living expense estimates are derived from multiple data sources and assume a reasonable but modest lifestyle.

The first step in putting together a financing plan for your education is to understand the expenses you will need to meet. Because our estimates may not be as generous as your current compensation, careful budgeting is essential - especially if you have a family. When creating your own personal budget, please note the only fixed expenses for which you will be billed are tuition and health insurance fees shown in the chart below. Expenses such as rent, food, and travel will vary by individual. You may also need to consider expenses that are not included as part of the standard student budget, such as consumer loan or credit card payments. In accordance with federal guidelines, we cannot take these kinds of expenses into consideration for financial aid purposes. This means you may need to trim expenses or secure additional non-HGSE resources to fully meet your personal budget expectations.

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HGSE Cost Estimates for 2025-2026

(9-month full-time academic year)

This table represents cost estimates for the 2025-2026 academic year only and does not include increases for future expenses.

Year 2 reflects a 10-month full-time academic year.

**Includes \$230 HGSE Document Fee*

***Health insurance coverage and fees determined at time of residency selection.*

	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Fixed Expenses			
Tuition	\$62,244	\$62,244	\$31,122
Health Insurance Fees	\$6,108	\$6,108	\$6,108**
Student Activity Fee	\$75	\$75	--
Allowances: May vary individually, but should not be exceeded			
Rent, Utilities, & Food	\$24,190	\$26,878	\$24,190
Personal Expenses	\$4,189	\$4,654	\$4,189
Local Transportation	\$1,475	\$1,565	\$1,475
Books & Supplies	\$330	\$330	\$230
Total Student Budget	\$98,611	\$101,854	\$67,314

A \$120 HGSE Graduation Fee may be charged in Year 3 for graduating student regalia



Health Insurance Fees

Harvard’s student health coverage includes two components. The first is mandatory coverage via Harvard University Health Services, billed at a rate of \$900 per semester in the 2025-2026 academic year. To comply with Federal law concerning comprehensive major medical coverage, students are also enrolled in supplemental health insurance through a Student Insurance Plan at a cost of \$2,154 per semester. If you have comparable medical coverage from another source, the Student Insurance Plan can be waived upon request; detailed instructions, deadlines, and documentation requirements can be found at www.huhs.harvard.edu. Please note that if you waive Student Insurance Plan coverage, your funding package will be adjusted accordingly, i.e. we will rescind the portion of your funding intended to cover the Student Insurance Plan.

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Is There Supplemental Financing for Additional Expenses?

Since your funding package provides you with support to closely meet the full estimated cost of attendance, there are very specific conditions that must be met to qualify for supplemental student loans. Specifically, you must be able to provide documentation of non-discretionary living expenses such as:

- University-provided dependent/family health plan fees
- Significant medical or adaptive expenses not covered by insurance
- Childcare costs, which may be prorated depending on the family's employment status
- Computer purchased for use in the program (one-time allowance)

Once you have provided documentation of these expenses, the Financial Aid Office will review your materials, adjust your student budget as warranted, and determine your eligibility for supplemental financial aid in the form of low-interest Federal Direct Loans. To initiate this process, you will need to file the HGSE Financial Aid Application and a 2025-2026 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); application information can be found in the "Applying for Aid" section of the HGSE Financial Aid website at www.gse.harvard.edu/financialaid. Additional information regarding Federal Direct Loans can be found in the "Student Loans" section of our website.

Your Resources & Expenses

A critical part of your financial planning process will be to identify the resources available to you in meeting the expenses of your education – personal assets, financial aid, and other sources. Your goal is to identify enough total resources to meet your expected total expenses during the coming academic year and to develop a plan that takes you through the entire length of the program. If your total resources are greater than your total expenses, you have a strong start on financial planning for the academic year. If your total expenses are greater than your resources, you should look for ways to reduce expenses as much as possible so that your resources stretch as far as possible; be prepared to adjust your spending and living plan accordingly.

Please remember that your eligibility for student loans will be constrained by our standard student budget as discussed above. We realize that financing a graduate education can be a challenge, and we encourage you to plan carefully so you can be successful both academically and financially as you invest in yourself at HGSE. We look forward to partnering with you in this effort!

You may find the table on the following page helpful as you determine your expected expenses and resources; you may also utilize iGrad, a personal financial program provided by HGSE.

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Your Expenses		Your Resources	
Tuition	\$	Income from work during academic year	\$
Rent/Housing Charges Utilities	\$	Savings and Personal Assets	\$
Food/Board	\$	Other Financial Assistance from family, etc.	\$
Transportation/ Moving Costs	\$	Scholarships & Grants from HGSE and/or outside sources	\$
Books/Supplies/Computer	\$	Loans	\$
Personal Expenses Payments: Credit/Loans, etc...	\$	Other	\$
Personal Expenses	\$	Other	\$
Medical/Dental/Health	\$	Other	\$
Child Care	\$	Other	\$
Other	\$	Other	\$
Total Expenses: \$		Total Resources: \$	

There are various resources and tools available on the Budgeting & Financial Literacy page of our website to assist in your planning.