

1 **ARTICLE 30**

2 **THE GRADUATE STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND**

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4 **Section 1. Graduate Student Assistance Fund**

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6 a) On January 1, 2015 a "Graduate Student Assistance Fund" (the "Fund") will be established for
7 the purpose of assisting graduate students, including GEs, facing financial hardship relating to a
8 Qualifying Event. The UO will place an amount equal to \$50 per admitted and enrolled UO
9 master's and doctoral student (the "Annual Amount") into the Fund to be used for awards to
10 eligible UO graduate students between January 1, 2015 and September 14, 2015 and annually
11 thereafter, beginning on September 15, 2015. On September 15, 2015 and each September 15th
12 thereafter, UO will replenish the Fund with the Annual Amount and will carry-forward amounts
13 remaining in the Fund from the previous year up to one-third of the previous year's Annual
14 Amount (this process shall be referred to as the "Annual Accounting"). For purposes of
15 determining the Annual Amount on any September 15th, the number of admitted and enrolled
16 master's and doctoral students will be the number that were enrolled as cited in the Fall Fourth
17 Week Data Report from the previous Fall.

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19 b) For purposes of this section, a Qualifying Event is defined as follows: (1) the birth, adoption, or
20 foster care placement of a child; (2) pregnancy disability or prenatal care; or (3) to care for a
21 spouse (or equivalent under Oregon law), partner, child, or parent who is experiencing a serious
22 medical condition or the student's own serious health condition.

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24 c) The GTFF shall appoint two representatives to the Fund Committee.

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26 d) Grievances under Article 13 related to the Graduate Student Assistance Fund are limited to
27 those disputes over the process used to review the application and may be filed directly at Step
28 3. All other Fund disputes, including substantive determinations, shall be resolved through the
29 Fund's appeal procedures.

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31 **Section 2.** The Graduate Student Assistance Fund (the "Fund") was established for the purpose of
32 assisting graduate students, including GEs, facing financial hardship related to a Qualifying Event. For the
33 purposes of this Article, the need for childcare will be read as a special Qualifying Event. Graduate
34 Employees may access the Graduate Student Assistance Fund for up to ~~\$575~~1000 for the purposes of
35 childcare. This assistance may be used only one time per child and only for documented childcare during
36 the first eighteen (18) months of the child's life or during the first eighteen (18) months following an
37 adoption. All other rules and policies related to the Fund apply. Accessing the Graduate Student

38 Assistance Fund for child care as described in this Section shall not count toward the maximum cap on
39 accessing the fund.

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41 **Section 3.** Once per fiscal year, if the Fund's total reserves fall below \$25,000, the University shall make
42 a one-time payment of \$25,000 to the Fund.

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