Hidden Costs of Grad School:
Tips for Establishing your Grad School Budget

(All costs accurate as of 1/31/26; subject to increase for the 2026-2027 year)

In addition to some of the things we all know comes with graduate school (tuition & fees, books, living arrangements, etc.), here are a few others that we wanted you to know about so you could plan accordingly.

ACUHO-I, NODA, NACA, & ACUI Summer Internship Application Fees

Several students each year take advantage of these formal internship programs during the summer after their first year. While not a requirement, these internships programs are well-known and offer a variety of experiences for those seeking to gain more experience in the housing & residence life and orientation functional areas.

- **ACUHO-I Internship App Fee:** $45.00: This fee gives you full access to the internship site for the process and a subscription to the digital *Talking Stick* for one year; you do not need to purchase a student membership to ACUHO-I in order to apply to the internship program.
- **NODA Internship App Fee:** Must hold current NODA student membership ($60) and pay the internship fee ($20) = $80.00
- **NACA Internship App Fee:** $25.00
- **ACUI Internship App Fee:** $0.00 (free to participate) *(have not been able to find information on this program for this year--this reflects what it has been previously)*

Graduation

Graduation Fee: $125.00
Regalia (cap, gown, tassel & hood): $120.96 (basic package–attire only)

Professional Liability Insurance: $7.00-$15.00

This is required insurance needed when you participate in HED 690 (Internship & Professionalism). A fee of approximately $7.00-$15.00 will be placed on your student account for Fall of your 2nd year to cover professional liability insurance, which is provided by the University and is cheaper than what students previously have had to purchase ($25.00 from professional organizations).

Professional Association Memberships

ACPA, NASPA, and SACSA are 3 large generalist Student Affairs organizations that professionals typically join in addition to their individual functional area organizations.

- **ACPA Grad Student Membership: $39.00**
- **NASPA Grad Student Membership: $40.00**
- **SACSA Grad Student Membership: $25.00**