

List of Departments that have a fully-funded Masters program that includes Ecology, Evolution, or Organismal Biology

Background on this list: Some Masters programs in biology are fully funded (tuition is waived and a stipend is provided), but many are not. It can be difficult to identify which MS programs are fully funded based on websites, because many websites have little to no information about financial support. This list was generated by professors and graduate students on Twitter who are involved in these programs. Thanks to everyone that contributed! Do you have an addition or update? Email: stacy.farina@howard.edu

How to use this list: This is just a starting point for students interested in MS programs in organismal biology. **Note: This list was originally compiled in 2019, and some information could be out of date.** It is very important that you do your own research into places of interest. Funding may only be guaranteed for certain degree programs, or funding may be based on which lab you join and the resources of your professor. The best way to research is to look up professors that share your interests and contact them directly. For more details about financial assistance, you can also reach out to the Graduate School's admissions team.

Caveats: Funding situations for MS programs may change year to year. It is vital that you reach out to professors that you are interested in working with to verify that funding is available. In general, when applying to graduate school, it is critical to talk to professors before you apply to discuss whether there is space in the lab and whether the research matches your interests.

Tuition: The primary sources of funding for MS programs are from Teaching Assistantships (TAs) and Research Assistantships (RAs). It is common for these assistantships to come with a tuition waiver in addition to the stipend. Tuition waivers will typically cover all tuition, but be mindful that some tuition waivers are only partial. Many universities require you to pay student fees that cannot be waived (usually under \$1,000, often much less).

Stipend: A stipend is typically provided with TAs and RAs. Stipends are income, and you can use this money for housing and other expenses. Be wary that some assistantships provide a stipend but not a tuition waiver, such that your stipend mostly is spent on tuition. I was careful to exclude these types of programs from this list, but be sure to do your own research. Also, be wary that stipends can vary from ~\$3,000 to \$30,000/year.

Health Insurance: Some MS programs provide student health insurance with the assistantships (typically with a premium). Some programs offer inexpensive student health insurance that you can buy. It can be difficult to find this information on websites, but it should be included in your offer letter if you are accepted into a program.

Institution	Department/Program	Tuition waiver?	Stipend?	Health Insurance?	Notes
University of Michigan	Frontiers Program	Yes	Yes	Yes	Underrepresented minority and first-gen students
University of Rhode Island	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	Yes	Great for students interested in marine and environmental biology (and other ecology and evolution topics)
Ohio State University	Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology	Yes	Yes	Yes	
University of Maine	School of Biology and Ecology	Yes	Yes	Included with some fellowships	
UMass-Boston	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Georgia Southern University	Biology	Yes	Yes	No	Great for students that want to do field work in ecology and evolution
Virginia Institute of Marine Science	School of Marine Science	Yes	Yes	Insurance allowance provided	Very supportive grad student community; More focused on applied sciences, such as fisheries and environmental biology
Oregon State University	Fisheries and Wildlife	Yes	Yes	Yes	Focused on Fisheries and Wildlife Biology
Southeastern Louisiana University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	
University of Connecticut	Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	Yes	Yes	Students can buy grad plan	Partial fee waiver
Auburn University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	Ecology, Evolution, Physiology, and Organismal Biology applicants should contact professors to check for availability in their labs
University of New Hampshire	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	Integrative Organismal Biology or Marine Biology
Old Dominion University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	Students can buy grad plan	
Grand Valley State University	Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute (AWRI)	Yes	Yes	?	
UMass-Dartmouth	Biology/Marine Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Bucknell University	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	Small program, but supportive environment
Towson University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	
Virginia Tech	Biological Sciences AND Fish and Wildlife Conserv	Yes	Yes	Yes	
UMBC	Interdisciplinary Consortium for Applied Research	Yes	Yes	Yes	NSF Funded MS program in ecology, evolution conservation and environmental science
University of Louisiana at Lafayette	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
University of Hawaii at Manoa	Zoology MS (Department of Biology)	Yes	Yes	Students can buy grad plan	
University of Kansas	Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	Yes	Yes	?	Note that this is an MA (not an MS). They seem to run the program like an MS, and it looks like a great program.
University of Cincinnati	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	
Eastern Michigan University	Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Western Michigan University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	
DuPaul University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	
Washington State University Pullman	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	Must establish residency in Washington State for tuition waiver, but new students from out of state are given time to do this
Rhode Island College	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Utah State University	Biology	Yes	Yes	Subsidized graduate health insurance	
University of New Mexico	Biology	Yes	Yes	Yes	No GRE required
University of Central Florida	Biology	Yes	Yes	Yes	
American University	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Youngstown State University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	
Adelphi University	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	Note that this area is rather expensive
Miami University (Ohio)	Botany	Yes	Yes	?	
UCLA	Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
The University of Southern Mississippi	Gulf Coast Research Laboratory	Yes	Yes	?	Funding is common, but not guaranteed to all students
University of Central Arkansas	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	Fees are waived, in addition to tuition
Wright State University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	Students can buy grad plan	
University of the Pacific	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	Most students get full tuition remission, but it's not guaranteed
University of Montana	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	No	
University of Tennessee Knoxville	Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Florida Atlantic University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	
Minnesota State University, Mankato	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Missouri State University	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Clemson University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	Subsidized graduate health insurance	
Southeast Missouri State	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Walla Walla University	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Central Michigan University	Biology/Conservation Biology	Yes	Yes	Students can buy grad plan	
Villanova University	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
University of Wyoming	Zoology and Physiology	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Wake Forest University	Biology	Yes	Yes	Students can buy grad plan	All graduate students get full tuition waiver, and WFU offers grad study in all areas of Biology
James Madison University	Biology	Yes	Yes	?	
Fordham University	Biology	Yes	Yes	Subsidized graduate health insurance	High cost of living in NYC, but relatively high stipend
Ohio University	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	?	
Loyola University Chicago	Biology	Yes	Yes	Yes	
University of Denver	Biological Sciences	Yes	Yes	Yes	
University of Mississippi	Biology	Yes	Yes	Subsidized graduate health insurance	
Wayne State University	Biology	Yes	Yes	Yes	No GRE Required
UMass Amherst	Organismal and Evolutionary Biology	Yes	Yes	Yes	Graduate students have a union
Portland State University	Biology	Yes	Yes	Currently not included, but in negotiations	
Illinois State University	Biology	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://biology.illinoisstate.edu/graduate/bio-as-graduate/financial-support/