

Bridge Funding Program College of Engineering

The COE Bridge Funding program provides PhD students with stipend, fringe benefit, and tuition coverage. The COE Research Affairs Committee makes award recommendations to the Dean's Office.

Eligibility:

1. The (primary) faculty advisor must have some appointment in COE, and the RA must be a COE PhD student who has not already received Bridge Funding support.
2. PhD students in their first year or entering their final semester are not eligible for Bridge Funding.
3. Faculty may only submit one PhD Bridge Funding Award per semester.

Selection Criteria

1. The faculty advisor must clearly show exhaustion of all their financial resources, including discretionary funding, to support a PhD RA at the time of the Bridge Funding application or expected exhaustion of financial resources within six months of the Bridge application deadline. The committee will review data provided by ARC about the faculty advisor's current account balances.
2. Higher priority is given to PhD students whose advisor has a demonstrated track record of supporting more RAs through external sponsorships.
3. Higher priority is given to PhD students whose advisor presents a comprehensive plan for securing additional funds for RA support in the near future. The committee will review data provided by ARC about the faculty advisor's pending proposals.
4. Higher priority is given to senior/established PhD students.
5. Higher priority is given to faculty advisors whose students have received fewer Bridge Funding Awards.

Review Process

1. Applications submitted to Graduate School of Engineering.
2. Dean's Office verifies proposal, award, and student information.
3. COE Research Affairs Committee (RAC) reviews applications and determines funding priorities.
4. Dean's Office makes funding decisions.