

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	October 10, 2024
<b>Ruling:</b>	<b>Constitutional</b>

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## PURDUE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

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### RESOLUTION No. FA24-R002

#### Equitable Access to Type “A” Parking Permits for Graduate and Professional Students




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**Author(s):** Victor Gutierrez-Schultz  
**Sponsor(s):** Gaoya Meng, Department of Biochemistry

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**WHEREAS**, graduate and professional students at Purdue University contribute significantly to the academic and research missions of the institution through teaching, research, and service; and

**WHEREAS**, the demanding schedules of graduate and professional students often require them to be on campus at irregular hours, including late nights and weekends, necessitating convenient and safe parking options; and

**WHEREAS**, the current parking permit system disproportionately affects graduate and professional students, limiting their access to essential campus resources and facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Graduate Council, in its September 2024 meeting, agreed that parking permit reservation for graduate students is a priority given the short timeframe within which permits sell out on being released for purchase, and a majority of graduate students are left without permits for an entire academic year; and

**WHEREAS**, equitable access to type “A” parking permits would enhance the overall well-being and productivity of graduate and professional students by reducing the time and stress associated with finding parking; and

**WHEREAS**, providing type “A” parking permits to graduate and professional students would demonstrate Purdue University’s commitment to supporting its graduate and professional student community and recognizing their vital contributions; and

**WHEREAS**, Purdue University has experienced a significant increase in the number of admitted students over the past two years, leading to record-breaking enrollment<sup>1,2</sup>, which has further strained the already limited access to parking on campus for graduate and professional students; and

**WHEREAS**, the current requirements for Purdue University type “A” parking permits stipulate that students must be employed by the university for at least 30 hours per week<sup>3</sup>, and 76% of graduate and professional students, in practice, work at least 30 hours per week<sup>4</sup>, often exceeding this threshold with many working over 40 hours per week<sup>4</sup>, thereby meeting the eligibility criteria for type “A” parking permits; and

**WHEREAS**, many peer institutions, such as Cornell University, offer similar parking privileges to their graduate and professional students, allowing them to purchase the same permits as faculty and staff<sup>5,6</sup>, putting Purdue at a competitive disadvantage in attracting and retaining top graduate talent; and

**WHEREAS**, graduate and professional students at Purdue University often lead recitations and lectures, which are time-sensitive, but due to limited availability of these “C” permit parking spots, are left to park in the overflow “C” parking lot; and

**WHEREAS**, with the current merging of the on-campus CityBus route operating between the overflow “C” parking lots and the airport, graduate and professional students are left with about 40 minutes of lag between arrival and reaching their workplace; and

**WHEREAS**, having to account for lag in time causes undue stress, takes away from the personal time of students, and impacts their well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, the cost of type “A” parking permits at Purdue University, priced at \$125 per semester<sup>3</sup>, is prohibitively expensive for many graduate and professional students, especially given the significant increase in the cost of living in West Lafayette, which is 5% higher than the national average and 17% higher than the Indiana state average<sup>7</sup>; and

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.jconline.com/story/news/2021/09/21/purdue-enrollment-record-breaking-just-under-50-000-students/8324100002/>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/releases/2021/Q2/purdue-to-welcome-largest-ever-incoming-class-this-fall.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.purdue.edu/parking/permits/west-lafayette/students/index.html>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-022-03419-8>

<sup>5</sup> <https://fcs.cornell.edu/departments/transportation-delivery-services/parking/parking-students>

<sup>6</sup> <https://gradschool.cornell.edu/announcements/parking-options-expanded-for-students-on-assistantships/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.areavibes.com/west+lafayette-in/cost-of-living/>

**WHEREAS**, the current minimum stipend for Purdue graduate and professional students, set at \$28,000 per year<sup>8</sup>, often does not meet the rising cost of living, placing additional financial strain on graduate and professional students.

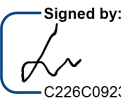
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that PGSG asks Purdue University to revise its current parking permit system to provide equitable access to essential campus resources and facilities by allowing all graduate and professional students, who form the backbone of Purdue's academic missions, convenient access to type "A" parking permits

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Purdue University shall lower the cost of a type "A" parking permit to that of a type "C" permit for all graduate and professional students.


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution be sent via email to the Parking and Transportation Committee, the University Senate, the Action Council on Student Housing and Well-Being, Purdue University Transportation Services, and Purdue Parking.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Purdue University decreases the requirement for an "A" parking permit from 0.75 FTE to 0.5 FTE for graduate and professional students to make this permit accessible for national and international graduate students.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND RESOLVED** 24<sup>th</sup> day of *October* 2024.

Signed by:  
  
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Somosmita Mitra  
President, PGSG


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Victor Gutierrez-Schultz  
Senate Chair, PGSS


Signed by:  
  
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Ethan Johnson  
Parliamentarian, PGSG

<sup>8</sup><https://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/purduetoday/2023/Q4/university-raises-stipend-minimum-again-for-phd-students/>

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Victor Gutierrez-Schultz  
Author

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Gaoya Meng  
Floor Sponsor, Senator for  
Biochemistry

## **Certification**

I, Abigayl Novak, Senate Clerk of the Purdue Graduate Student Senate, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was regularly passed and adopted by the Purdue Graduate Student Senate of Purdue University, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024 by the following vote:


**AYES (24):**

- Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE) - Harsh Pathak
- Agricultural Economics - Emily Forsythe
- Animal Sciences - Iqra Nazir
- Aviation and Transportation Technology (ATT) - Gustavo Sanchez Cortes
- Biomedical Engineering - Mikayla Roach
- Chemical Engineering - Katherine L. Young
- Computer Graphics Technology (CGT) - Anant Upadhyay
- Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences (EAPS) - Vincent Sassard
- Ecological Sciences and Engineering (ESE) - Ariana Jolie Lazo
- Food Science - Daniel Alfonso Fajardo Reyes
- History - Srishti Dutta Chowdhury
- Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) - Kasey Paige Riha
- Human Development and Family Sciences (HDFS) - Can Carkoglu
- Industrial and Molecular Pharmaceutics (IMPH) - Rachana Sapkota
- Materials Engineering - Ankit Kumar
- Mechanical Engineering (ME) - Aishwary Shrivastava
- Nutrition Science - Rojina Thapa
- Philosophy - James Harry Day
- Physics and Astronomy - Allen Roy Murray
- Political Science - Sarandan Green
- Purdue University Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (PULSe) - Emmanuel Oluwarotimi
- Sociology - Juwen Wang
- Computer and Information Technology (CIT) - Khalil El Breidi

<b>NAYS (1):</b>	Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) - Delaney Frances Jones
<b>ABSENT (15):</b>	<p>Civil Engineering - Deepak Benny</p> <p>Communication - Clara Elisa Hortua Alvarado</p> <p>Computer Science (CS) - Syed Hasan Amin Mahmood</p> <p>English - Dylan Henderson</p> <p>Environmental and Ecological Engineering (EEE) - Yiming Liu</p> <p>Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) - Delaney Frances Jones</p> <p>Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (IBSC) - Tuba Marjan</p> <p>Mathematics - Geoffrey Baring</p> <p>Medicinal Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology - Jude Tetteh Quarshie</p> <p>Nuclear Engineering (NE) - Stepan Ozerov</p> <p>Technology, Leadership, and Innovation (TLI) - Elnara Mammadova</p> <p>Art &amp; Design - Carolyn Guerin</p> <p>Electrical and Computer engineering (ECE) (Indianapolis) - Avijit Saha</p> <p>Asian American and Asian Resource and Cultural Center (AAARCC) - Nguyen Le</p> <p>Economics - Navid Safahieh</p>
<b>ABSTAINED (15):</b>	<p>Aeronautics and Astronautics (AAE) - Arjun Rajashekar Adiga</p> <p>Agricultural Sciences Education and Communication (AgSEC) - Aimable Mugabo</p> <p>Agronomy - Binod Joshi</p> <p>Anthropology - Taylor Symone Borgelt</p> <p>Biochemistry - Gaoya (Grace) Meng</p> <p>Botany and Plant Pathology (BPP) - Pascal Okoye</p> <p>Chemistry - Samson Marvellous Oladeji</p> <p>Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) - Jacob Mishne</p> <p>Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) - Nimit Agarwal</p> <p>Engineering Education - Anyerson Cuervo</p> <p>Health Sciences - Marwan Alajlouni</p> <p>Horticulture and Landscape Architecture (HLA) - Khadija Mbacke</p>

Industrial Engineering - Kamelia Sepanloo  
Languages and Cultures - Nafiu Olayiwola Oloore  
Management (MGMT) - Rajeev Karunanayake

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of *April*  
2025.

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Abigayl Novak  
Senate Clerk, PGSS