

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

## PURDUE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

### RESOLUTION No. FA24-R003



### “Move-in Package for Incoming Graduate Staff”

**Author(s):** Vince Sassard

**Sponsor(s):** Vince Sassard, Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences;

**WHEREAS**, PGSG promotes the well-being of graduate students; and

**WHEREAS**, Purdue graduate students must incur large expenses upon arrival on campus for their installation such as, but not limited to, their rent and rent deposit representing generally ~\$1,400 (Exhibit A) and their travel to the Greater Lafayette area that can reach more than \$1,500 (Exhibit D); and

**WHEREAS**, This is a source of high pressure which can negatively impact the academic success of incoming graduate students; and

**WHEREAS**, Some faculty are aware of this and would be in favor of financially helping their incoming students; and

**WHEREAS**, The incoming graduate students do not receive their salary until two weeks after classes start,<sup>1</sup> leaving them in a state of financial insecurity while they await their first payment; and

**WHEREAS**, Not all incoming graduate students and their families can afford these expenditures (Exhibit G); and

**WHEREAS**, Incoming graduate students may not immediately be aware of grants established for their support; and

**WHEREAS**, It is not guaranteed that incoming graduate students will be eligible for or will receive existing grants; and

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.purdue.edu/hr/paytimepractices/paycontractdates/aycontractbi.php>

**FOR INTRODUCTION AT OCTOBER 2024 PGSS MEETING**

**WHEREAS**, Even if incoming graduate students are eligible for and aware of existing grants, there is not enough funding available through these grants to support every student; and

**WHEREAS**, A survey of 120 respondents reported that 67% of them paid between \$750 and \$1,750 for their rent and rent deposit, 23% paid more than \$1,750 (Exhibit A); 38% reported that they paid between \$200 and \$399 for bed and groceries upon arrival, and 15% paid more than \$1,000 (Exhibit B); 84% reported that they paid less than \$200 on the setup of their utilities (electricity and gas) (Exhibit C); 38% reported paying less than \$200 to travel to the Greater Lafayette area and 23% reported that they paid more than \$1,500 (Exhibit D); among the 59 international students who answered this survey, 22% reported paying between \$500 and \$599 for their visa fees including their fare to the embassy (Exhibit E); and

**WHEREAS**, 21% indicated being aware of other universities providing move-in packages (Exhibit F) such as Johns Hopkins University (\$2,000 on a financial need basis but not for international students)<sup>2,3</sup>, University of Wisconsin-Madison<sup>4</sup>(welcome checks for all students), Boston University<sup>5</sup>(on a financial-need basis but not international students), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill<sup>6</sup>(for everyone in Biomedical and Biological Sciences program), Arizona State University (mentioned in the letter of admission or letter of acceptance for merit-based fellowships, not for international students)<sup>7</sup>; 17% reported being aware of acquaintances turning down a graduate school offer or not considering graduate school because they were not offered a move-in package (Exhibit G); and 96% of respondents indicated being in favor of Purdue offering a move-in package to all incoming graduate staff (Exhibit H).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That PGSG asks the Purdue University Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars to deliver its incoming graduate staff a move-in loan upon arrival equivalent to their first month salary starting as soon as Fall 2025. This loan must be paid back from their paychecks within the next 3 months.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That PGSG asks the Purdue University Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars to provide this move-in package to all incoming graduate staff in perpetuity.

<sup>2</sup> <https://eps.jhu.edu/graduate/admissions/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://trujhu.org/contract/> (article 25, section 4)

<sup>4</sup> <https://businessservices.wisc.edu/making-payments/payments-to-students/welcome-checks/> <sup>5</sup> <https://www.bu.edu/haa/graduate-student-relocation-assistance-grants/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://bbbsp.unc.edu/prospective-students/financial-support/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://rackham.umich.edu/funding/rackham-merit-fellowship-program/>

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

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Somosmita Mitra  
President, PGSG

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Victor Gutierrez-Schultz  
Senate Chair, PGSS

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Vince Sassard  
Author

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Ethan Nicholas Johnson  
Parliamentarian, PGSS

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Vince Sassard  
Floor Sponsor, Senator for Earth,  
Atmospheric, and Planetary  
Sciences

## 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  
Animal Sciences - Iqra Nazir  
Aviation and Transportation Technology (ATT) - Gustavo Sanchez Cortes  
Biological Sciences - Ayomide Olohigbe Unuigbokhai  
Biomedical Engineering (BME) - Mikayla Roach  
Chemical Engineering - Katherine L. Young  
Civil Engineering - Deepak Benny  
Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences (EAPS) - Vincent Sassard  
Ecological Sciences and Engineering (ESE) - Ariana Jolie Lazo  
Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) - Nimit Agarwal  
Engineering Education - Anyerson Cuervo  
Food Science - Daniel Alfonso Fajardo Reyes  
Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) - Delaney Frances Jones  
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 (MSE) - Nicole Balog  
Mechanical Engineering (ME) - Aishwary Shrivastava  
Nutrition Science - Rojina Thapa  
Philosophy - James Harry Day  
Physics and Astronomy - Allen Roy Murray  
Political Science - Sarandan Green  
Sociology (SOC) - Juwen Wang

### **NAYS (1):**

Purdue University Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (PULSe) - Emmanuel Oluwarotimi

### **ABSENT (24):**

Aeronautics and Astronautics (AAE) - Arjun Rajashekar Adiga  
Agricultural Sciences Education and Communication (AgSEC) - Aimable Mugabo  
Agronomy - Binod Joshi  
Anthropology - Taylor Symone Borgelt  
Art & Design - Carolyn Guerin

Biochemistry - Gaoya (Grace) Meng  
Botany and Plant Pathology (BPP) - Pascal Okoye  
Chemistry - Samson Marvellous Oladeji  
Communication - Clara Elisa Hortua Alvarado  
Computer Science (CS) - Syed Hasan Amin Mahmood  
Economics - Navid Safahieh  
English - Dylan Henderson  
Environmental and Ecological Engineering (EEE) - Yiming Liu  
Technology, Leadership, and Innovation (TLI) - Elnara Mammadova  
Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (IBSC) - Tuba Marjan  
Mathematics - Geoffrey Baring  
Nuclear Engineering (NE) - Stepan Ozerov  
Medicinal Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology - Jude Tetteh Quarshie  
Electrical and Computer engineering (ECE) (Indianapolis) - Avijit Saha  
Asian American and Asian Resource and Cultural Center (AAARCC) - Nguyen Le

**ABSTAINED (6):**

Agricultural Economics - Emily Forsythe  
Computer Graphics Technology (CGT) - Anant Upadhyay  
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) - Jacob Mishne  
Health Sciences - Marwan Alajlouni  
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture (HLA) - Khadija Mbacke  
Industrial Engineering - Kamelia Sepanloo  
Languages and Cultures - Nafiu Olayiwola Oloore  
Management (MGMT) - Rajeev Karunanayake  
Computer and Information Technology (CIT) - Khalil El Breidi

2025.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 24<sup>th</sup> day of *April*

DocuSigned by:  
*Abigayl Novak*  
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Abigayl Novak  
Senate Clerk

**Exhibit “A” Table summarizing the costs of moving-in to the Greater Lafayette Area for a graduate students based on the responses to the survey displayed in Exhibits B-I**

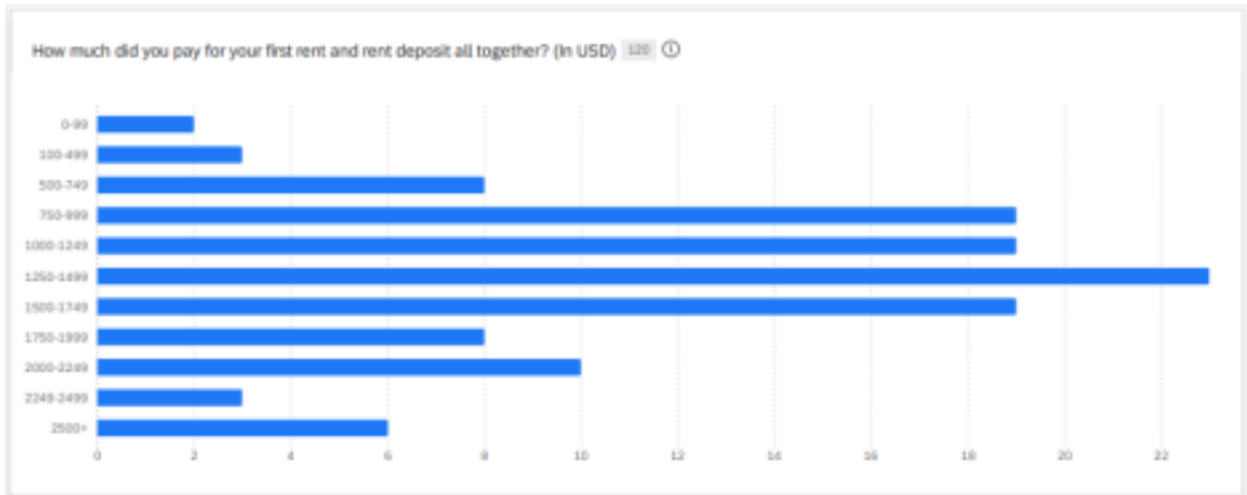
<b>Expenditures Cost</b>
Rent and rent deposit \$1,250 - \$1,499 Two-week groceries and bed \$300 - \$399
Utility setup \$0 - \$199
Travel to Greater Lafayette \$100 - 299\$ / \$1,500+
Visa expenses (if applicable, 59 respondents here) \$500 - \$599

**Total \$2,150 - \$2,995 \$3,650+ - \$6,645+**

**Exhibit "B"**

**Responses to Survey Question on First Rent and Rent Deposit Payment**

**[SEE ATTACHED ONE (1) PAGE]**



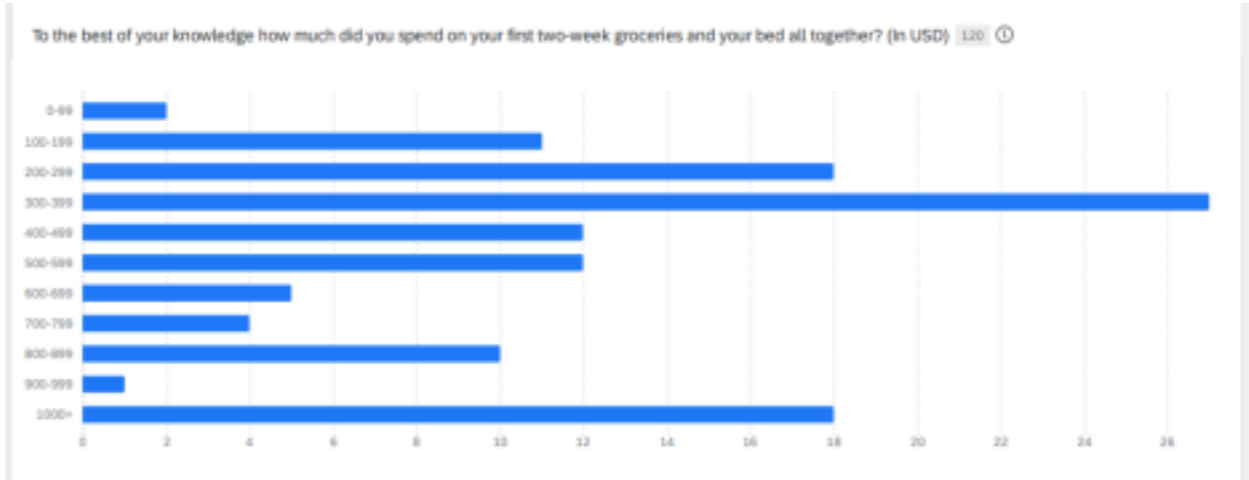
How much did you pay for your first rent and rent deposit all together? (in USD) 12/0 ⓘ

Q1 - How much did you pay for your first rent and rent deposit all together? (in USD)

	Percentage	Count
0-99	2%	2
100-499	3%	3
500-749	7%	8
750-999	16%	19
1000-1249	18%	19
1250-1499	19%	23
1500-1749	16%	19
1750-1999	7%	8
2000-2249	8%	10
2249-2499	3%	3
2500+	5%	6

**Exhibit “C”**  
**Responses to Survey Question on First Two-Week Groceries and Bed Expenses**

**[SEE ATTACHED ONE (1) PAGE]**



To the best of your knowledge how much did you spend on your first two-week groceries and your bed all together? (in USD) 1/20 ⓘ

Q2 - To the best of your knowledge how much did you spend on your first two-week groceries and your bed all together? (in USD)

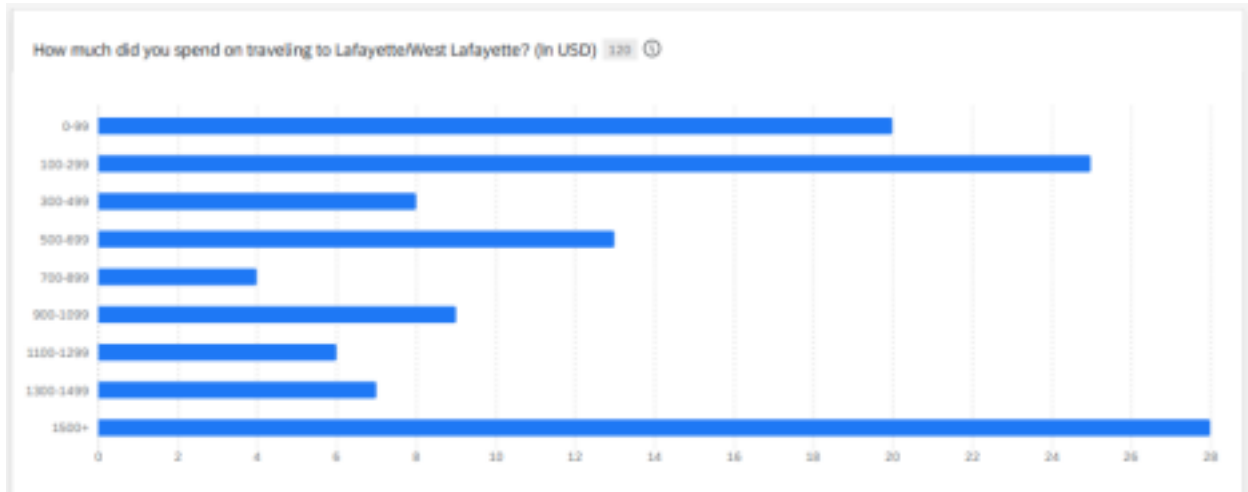
	Percentage	Count
0-99	2%	2
100-199	9%	11
200-299	15%	18
300-399	23%	27
400-499	10%	12
500-599	10%	12
600-699	4%	5
700-799	3%	4
800-899	8%	10
900-999	1%	1
1000+	15%	18

**Exhibit “D”**  
**Responses to Survey Question on Utility Setup Expenses**

**[SEE ATTACHED ONE (1) PAGE]**



**Exhibit “E”**  
**Responses to Survey Question on Travel Expenses**  
**[SEE ATTACHED ONE (1) PAGE]**



How much did you spend on traveling to Lafayette/West Lafayette? (in USD) 129 ⓘ

Q7 - How much did you spend on traveling to Lafayette/West Lafayette? (in USD)	Percentage	Count
0-99	17%	20
100-299	21%	25
300-499	7%	8
500-699	11%	13
700-899	3%	4
900-1099	8%	9
1100-1299	5%	6
1300-1499	6%	7
1500+	23%	28

**Exhibit “F”**  
**Responses to Survey Question on Visa Expenses**  
**[SEE ATTACHED ONE (1) PAGE]**



If you are an international student, how much did you pay to get your F-1 visa (SEVIS fees, appointment fees, fare to US Embassy / Consulate, etc.)? (in USD)

Q8 - If you are an international student, how much did you pay to get your F-1 visa (SEVIS fees, appointment fees, fare to US Embassy / Consulate, etc.)? (in USD)

	Percentage	Count
0-99	1%	1
100-199	2%	2
200-299	6%	7
300-399	6%	7
400-499	6%	7
500-599	12%	13
600-699	6%	7
700-799	3%	3
800-899	1%	1
900-999	1%	1
1000+	9%	10
N/A	48%	54

**Exhibit “G”**

**Responses to Survey Question on Awareness of Other Universities Providing Move-in Packages**

**[SEE ATTACHED ONE (1) PAGE]**



Are you aware of other universities offering a move-in package to their incoming staff? If yes, how much and which universities? Is it offered to all students or only to individuals whose application is considered "strong"? Please provide a link if you can. 118

Q4 - Are you aware of other universities offering a move-in package to their incoming staff? If yes, how much and which universities? Is it offered to all students or only to individuals whose application is considered "strong"? Please provide a link if you can. - Selected Choice

	Percentage	Count
Yes, please specify:	21%	25
No	79%	93

**Exhibit "H"**

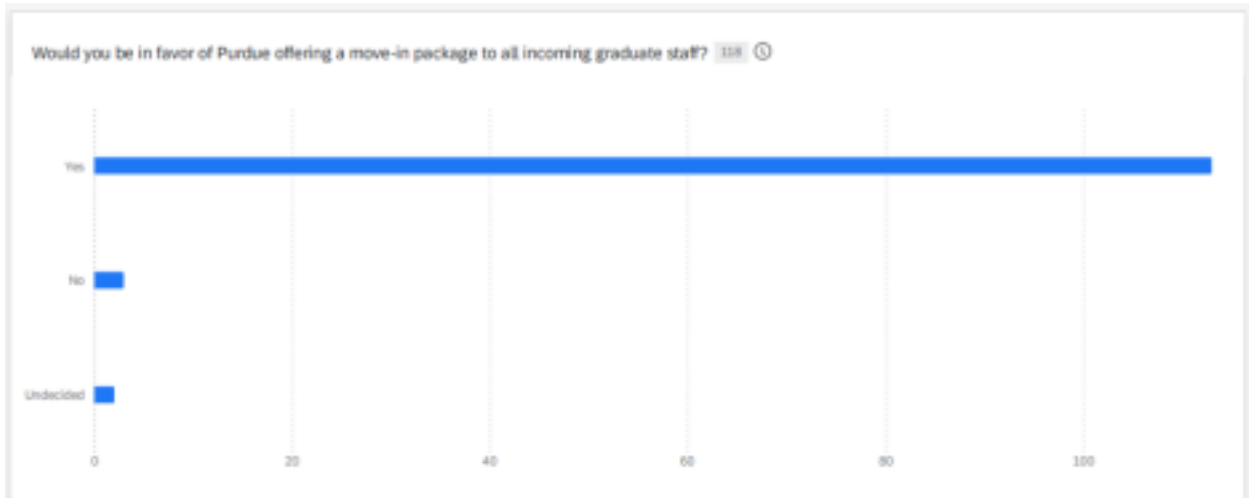
**Responses to Survey Question on Awareness of Students Who Rejected a Graduate School Due to Not Being Offered a Move-in Package**

**[SEE ATTACHED ONE (1) PAGE]**



**Exhibit “I”**  
**Responses to Survey Question on Support for Purdue University Offering a Move-in Package to All Incoming Graduate Staff**

**[SEE ATTACHED ONE (1) PAGE]**



Would you be in favor of Purdue offering a move-in package to all incoming graduate staff? 118

Q6 - Would you be in favor of Purdue offering a move-in package to all incoming graduate staff?

	Percentage	Count
Yes	96%	113
No	3%	3
Undecided	2%	2