



Graduate Assistantship Openings Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center

The Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center aims to provide policymakers and the public with the information necessary to improve lives and communities across Louisiana. The Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center is an interdisciplinary research center focused on the public policy areas championed by Governor Blanco during her 25-year career in state government. These issues include education, poverty and economic opportunity, criminal justice reform, health and healthcare, the coast and environment, and governmental ethics.

The Blanco Center invites applications from master's degree seeking graduate students to fill the following tuition-waiver-only Graduate Research Assistantship position(s).

Primary Duties and Responsibilities:

The graduate students appointed to these applied GRA positions will perform a variety of research activities as the Center engages in research across a range of topics in public policy. They will collaborate with Blanco Center researchers to support multiple ongoing projects. They will develop a research plan and complete major tasks related to the research project. Selected candidates must be able to track progress and ensure timely completion of major milestones and final deliverables. They must also be able to interpret data and contribute to reports with the support from other Blanco Center staff.

Eligibility, Qualifications, and Additional Considerations:

Tuition-waiver-only Graduate Research Assistantship position(s) with the Blanco Center are for the academic year and usually begin in the Fall semester. These positions will begin in August 2026.

Applicants must be UL Lafayette graduate students in good academic standing who have been admitted unconditionally.

Students in **MS Communication, MS and PhD Computer Science, MS Criminal Justice, MA History, MS Informatics and PhD Applied Computing and Information Sciences, MS and PhD Mathematics, M Architecture, and MS Psychology** graduate programs are eligible to apply. Consideration also may be given to graduate students pursuing a degree program and research focus with direct connection to the duties described above.

Appointment requires unconditional admission, full-time graduate enrollment, and satisfactory completion of **10 hours of in-person, on-campus** duties each week during the academic terms. Appointment does not require completion of duties when classes are not in session (i.e., during intercessions, student holidays, and semester breaks).

Continuation of appointment is contingent upon successful completion of assistantship duties and satisfactory progress toward the degree. Reappointment beyond the 2026-2027 academic year is not guaranteed; continuation is dependent upon the same conditions as well as budgetary considerations and approval.

If an international graduate student, your visa status may place restrictions on your employment eligibility; if you are not certain if your visa status permits holding an assistantship, contact the Office of International Affairs in the Division of Global Engagement.

Compensation:

Compensation includes a waiver of tuition and mandatory fees. Assistantship tuition/fee waiver benefits will be prorated to start date.

- The value of tuition/fee waiver for an academic-year assistantship in 2026-2027 is at least \$11,202 for U.S. resident graduate students and \$27,674 for non-resident international graduate students enrolled in 9 graduate credit hours per semester. For students taking more credits, this benefit is even higher.
- The accompanying fee waiver does not cover 100% of the supplemental insurance fee for international students on F-1, J-1, or other non-immigrant visas.

To Apply:

To apply, upload a letter of application, resume, and contact information for professional references to [Handshake](#).

Questions should be directed to Nicole LaCour, Assistant Director, blancocenter@louisiana.edu.

To ensure full consideration, apply by August 6. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.