

Defining the Universe

UCSC Data Warehouse's GSS universe, a.k.a. Graduate Student (financial) Support universe, contains information about payments made to graduate students on a quarterly or term basis back to July 1, 1996. It is intended to be used by the Graduate Division, and academic divisions and departments in analyzing trends in the level of financial support to graduate students.

Source Systems

- AIS – Financial Aid payments to graduate students, including the payment of tuition and fees while employed
- AIS – Limited information about students who received payments, as of the 3WK of the term
- PPS – Payroll payments to graduate students

Data is loaded one quarter in arrears -- after the third-week census data is received by the campus data warehouse in the following term. The approximate load schedule is by end of these months: February for Fall, May for Winter, September for Spring, November for Summer. For confirm the most recent load, check the Highlights section of the Data Management website

<https://datamgmt.ucsc.edu/infoview/universes/universes-general/gss/index.html#load>

Features and Limitations

Only certain demographic, enrollment, and degree information are included in the Data Warehouse. The following types of data are not available from the Data Warehouse:

- Payments made through FIS Banner, unless also recorded in AIS
- Payments made directly by an external funding agency, unless also recorded in AIS

Student identity is protected for Loan payments. You can only see total dollars for loan payments in the term. If you have a legitimate need to view the specific student ID, student name, etc. for loans, then a greater access level is required. The only person who can authorize such access is the Director of Financial Aid.

Year is recorded in two ways:

- Acad Year is Summer, Fall, Winter, Spring
- Aid Year is Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer

Fund Type Derived is a custom object that re-defines the type of funds that pay Tuition and Fees. In practice, Tuition and Fees are charged in AIS to the Graduate Division. These expenses are subsequently transferred in FIS to the FOAPAL that paid the Research Assistant (GSR) payroll. This object derives the funding type (fund level 2) for the tuition and fees from the corresponding payroll record. There is no guarantee that the funding will match what ultimately transpires in FIS, but it is a best guess.

Department is determined from the students major. If the student was not registered in the term that they received payment (such as Summer) then the major is "--" and the department is unknown for that payment.

Classes Defined

The types of data available fall into these categories:

Major Hierarchy:

The major declared by the student that term, and corresponding academic department and division information.

Payments:

Information about the payment including term, amount, employment percent (if relevant) type of payment, and FOAPAL charged.

Chart of Accounts:

Hierarchies associated with each elements of the FOAPAL charged, for use in grouping information. When a record has "--" (missing) Org, Fund, and Account it means the payment was made directly to the student from an outside funding agency.

Job Title Hierarchy:

Information about the payroll Title Code associated with the payment (if relevant), including the Class Title Outline hierarchy.

UCOP Financial Aid Award Hierarchy:

A Hierarchy exists for categorizing payments. From highest to lowest, the hierarchy is:

Payment Activity Group	Payment Activity	Payment Activity Redefined	Item Type
Earnings	Associate_in	Associate_in	PPS
Earnings	Other Campus Earnings	Other Campus Earnings	PPS
Earnings	Reader or Tutor	Reader or Tutor	PPS
Earnings	Research Assistant	Research Assistant	PPS
Earnings	Teaching Assistant	Teaching Assistant	PPS
Financial Aid	Fellowship	Fellowship <i>or</i> Tuition, Remission, Fees (if Tuition Remission coded in AIS as fellowship)	List of codes
Financial Aid	Tuition, Remission, Fees	Tuition, Remission, Fees	List of codes
Financial Aid	Grant	Grant	List of codes
Financial Aid	Loan	Loan	List of codes
Financial Aid	Scholarship	Scholarship	List of codes
Financial Aid	Other Financial Assistance	Other Financial Assistance	List of codes

Student:

Information about the student including their identity (except for loan payments), major, registration status, level, and limited demographic information such as gender and ethnicity as of the 3WK of the term in which the payment is made. If a 3WK record does not exist for the student, then the information is pulled from the End of Term census information. If a student is not registered in the term in which they receive payment, such as summer, the student's identity and major is derived from the preceding term (up to 3 terms back). However, registration information remains term-specific.

Helpful Hints**Item Type of “-“**

From Summer 1996 through the last load (as of the writing of this document) there are more than 40,000 payment records that exist with an Item Type of “-“. The majority of these are payments that were made through SIS prior to Fall 2004 for which SIS Subcodes (a.k.a. series Z codes) were not re-created as AIS Item Type codes, thus the FOAPAL is not known. The rest of the records result from mismatched Fund-Org-Account combinations between AIS and FIS, and new Item Type Codes.

The specific patterns of pre-2004 Subcode FOAPAL assignments are currently being researched and corrected as a background task by Kimberly Register. In addition, a data warehouse programmer has been assigned to reload the records from Fall 2004 to present with the correct FOAPAL information.

Corporate Documents Available**“Warp speed ...”**

A set of Corporate Documents has been loaded to Business Objects™ for your use. These reports have been specifically designed to meet common reporting needs, including replication of the historical FDX printed reports, and have undergone a certification process to validate accuracy and document their purpose. A full description of the certification process can be found at <https://datamgmt.ucsc.edu/infoview/corporate-docs/cert-process.html>