

# GRAD STUDENT UNION FACTS

- **STEM STUDENTS ARE NOT PAID MORE** - The truth is pay varies wildly both across the university and among departments. There are grade 14 engineering Ph.D. candidates (the second lowest pay grade), and grade 20+ graduate employees in English. We all deserve a living wage.
- **YOUR PAY WON'T GO DOWN** - A union is a democratic organization of employees. They win benefits like pay raises through a collective bargaining agreement. That agreement or contract is voted on by all union members. We would not vote for a contract that lowers our wage.
- **GET PAID FOR THE WORK YOU DO** - Most of us are on "half-time" appointments but are expected to work far more than 20 hours. A union will not restrict how much work you can do but will ensure you get paid for all the hours you work.
- **A 3% RAISE IS A 5% PAY CUT WITH INFLATION** - Admin recently announced a 3% pay raise. With inflation, that amounts to a 5% cut. In contrast, the University of Michigan grad student union won an 11.4 % raise regardless of field of study.
- **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CAN UNIONIZE** - Admin has previously indicated international students might put their visas in danger if they were to join a union. The fact is in the history of graduate student unions, not a single international student has had their visa impacted by unionizing activity. It is a legally protected right.

**Get the facts @ [cgepsu.org/union-faqs](https://cgepsu.org/union-faqs)**