



Priming Tax Policies to Support Graduate Education

PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Higher education tax credits should be easily available for individuals pursuing a graduate degree to enhance their skills and cultivate a highly skilled and competitive workforce.

PRIORITIES

- ▶ Simplify and enhance tax credits so they are more navigable for students and families while ensuring the benefits can be used toward graduate education.
- ▶ Strengthen employers' ability to provide tax-exempt tuition assistance by expanding monetary limits and allow it to include student loan repayments.
- ▶ Ensure tax policies support charitable giving and maximize the utility of endowments, which allow academic institutions to fulfill their missions.
- ▶ Continue to exclude current tuition waivers and remissions from being included as taxable income and exclude future grant aid to students from being income taxable.

RATIONALE

- ▶ Provisions within the U.S. tax code directly affect the ability of employees to pursue a graduate degree as well as the ability of employers to invest in their employees' education. These credits and deductions can serve as powerful tools for recruitment and retention of employees, as well as help cultivate a highly-educated and skilled U.S. workforce.

