

# Graduate College Policy on Summer Graduate Tuition

Final Version – February 4, 2011

## Background

Prior to summer 2011, policy required that graduate students who are on assistantship be considered full-time students and pay the associated tuition and fees, including during summer session. This revised policy effectively decouples tuition assessment for graduate students from their status as graduate assistants during summer session, effective for summer 2011. **The intent of the new policy is to allow graduate students to be appointed as graduate assistants during the summer with appropriate responsibilities normally associated with the assistantship, and that graduate tuition during the summer be assessed according to their actual enrollment in credit courses, for research credit, or because they will complete their degree requirements during the summer of appointment.** It is expected that graduate students will continue to enroll for summer credit courses as determined by their program of study or other requirements, such as visa requirements for international students in their first year of study.

Following implementation of this policy, it is likely that the Programs of Study (POS) for some graduate students will need to be revised to reflect a reduction in expected research credits during the summer as appropriate to the individual student and their research activities.

In many instances it will continue to be appropriate for graduate students to include summer credit courses on their programs of study, as well as to register for research credits in order to adequately reflect faculty effort associated with thesis and dissertation research supervision. This policy is intended to decouple graduate assistant appointment status from summer tuition assessment, but should not be viewed as devaluing the appropriateness of summer for-credit registration by graduate students when appropriate to their research or program of study.

- Graduate students who register for credit courses in the summer, for research credits in the summer, who have visa requirements for summer registration, or who will complete graduation requirements during the summer of appointment shall be assessed tuition according to the credits taken or as required during their final term of graduate study (if applicable).
- Graduate students on assistantship appointments during the summer who register for credit courses or for research credit during the summer will receive tuition scholarships commensurate with their graduate, appointment, and residency status.

- After the anticipated implementation of candidacy status tuition, beginning in FY 2013, graduate students in candidacy status will be assessed tuition during summer as specified by to-be-developed candidacy status tuition policies.
- Except in unusual circumstances, graduate students will not be employed on an hourly basis during the summer.

### **Tuition Assessment Implementation Process for Graduate Assistants (C-Base) - Summer 2011**

1. C-Base students will not be required to pay fees in Summer Sessions simply because of their appointment status. Summer fee assessment will be based on registration status and not appointment status.
2. C-Base students who do not register for any summer courses **for credit** or for research credits will be registered in an R credit course, GR ST 633 (Summer Grad Asst). No tuition, differentials, or mandatory fees will be charged for C-Base students who are only registered for GR ST 633. Students will show as registered (LAST-REGIS = 1xx) for the Summer term.
3. C-Base students enrolled in only GR ST 633 will have the option to pay the Activity fee if they want to use Rec facilities. They will also have the option to pay the Health Fee if they want to use the Health Service.
4. C-Base student who do register for regular credit courses or for research credit (i.e. not GR ST 633) will be charged the per-credit graduate resident rate up to a max of the 5-credit graduate resident rate. Differential tuition, special/delivery fees, and mandatory fees will be assessed accordingly.
5. C-Base international students who begin new degree programs in Summer must register full time according to SEVIS rules.
6. All graduate students for whom Summer is the last semester must register for at least two credits.
7. Tuition for C-Base students enrolled in regular credit courses or for research credit (not GR ST 633) will continue to be assessed into the Resident C-Base (selling agency 0865).
8. Graduate tuition scholarships and other financial aid will need to be adjusted based on assessed tuition.
9. Financial Aid and Receivable processes will need to be adjusted as needed.
10. Students registered in GR ST 633 will be certified as full-time for the summer.
11. The changes effective for Summer 2011 will be communicated to colleges, graduate programs, and graduate students. The Graduate College will develop and implement a communication plan by no later than March 1, 2011.
12. The determination of whether a graduate student registers for a particular course or for research credit during a particular semester (summer or any other) is a negotiation/discussion that typically involves the student and their major professor. When a graduate student and major professor are unable to reach agreement regarding registration, the DOGE of the program will try to negotiate an agreement. If agreement is not reached at the program/department level, the situation and supporting background information will be provided to the Graduate College for resolution.