

## FY25 Graduate Support Details & Faculty Buy-Out Guidelines

### A. Self-paying students

Self-paying students will be fully responsible for all their costs.

### B. Students funded as GTAs, GRAs or GAs

#### Stipends and Health Insurance

The **minimum** stipend levels in CEMS are currently set to the following for FY25:

	9 mo	12 mo
Master's	\$24,000	\$32,000
PhD	\$24,000	\$32,000

We recommend budgeting proposals with a 4% annual increase in graduate student stipend levels. New minimum stipend levels for the university for FY26 will be set in the early spring semester by the Graduate College, at which point we will set the CEMS FY26 minimum stipends. The fringe benefit rate for graduate students is 12.7% for FY25. This rate covers 100% of the students' UVM individual health insurance policy.

Internally funded stipends (GTA [with teaching assignment] & GA [internally funded research assignment]) are billed to the Responsibility Center (RC) budget. Externally funded (GRA) stipends are billed to the grant funding the student.

#### Tuition and Fee Scholarship

The tuition scholarship for full time 9-month GTA position is 9 credits per semester.

The tuition scholarship for a full time 12-month GRA is 9 credits per semester and 5 credits in the summer.

Graduate students are currently charged tuition either at the in-state rate (\$678/SCH for FY25) or the out-of-state rate (\$1,780 for FY25). All fully funded GTAs and GRAs are charged at the in-state rate. GTAs and GRAs receive a tuition scholarship as indicated in Table 1 on the next page. Grants will be charged for 9 credits per semester at the in-state rate (\$6,102/sem in FY25) for a full-time GRA, and the remainder will be an expense to the college.

Proposals with GRA positions are required to budget one of the following:

- 18 credits of academic year at the in-state rate on grants that allow tuition charges. Currently that amount is \$12,204 (for FY25) and will change whenever tuition costs change. All stipends will be budgeted for 12 months.
- 9 credits of academic year along with a half stipend over the academic year and a **full** stipend in the summer. The expectation is that this will only be used when there is an agreement that the student is supported on a GTA or internal GA for the other 50% of the academic year.

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**Table 1. The following table outlines the tuition that will be fully covered by CEMS (and grants where applicable) for GRA and GTA appointments. Students are required to pay for credits beyond these levels.**

	Appointment	Funding %	Fall	Spring	Summer
GTA	9 months	50	6	6	NA
	9 months	100	9	9	NA
GTA\GRA\GA	12 months	50	6	6	5
	12 months	100	9	9	5

Student comprehensive fee (\$2,222 per calendar year for full-time students - \$1086/semester and \$50 for summer for FY25) will be paid for all students appointed as GTAs, GRAs and GAs. For GRAs, these fees will be charged to grants along with the tuition for any grants which allow such charges.

A 50% funding for a GRA will only be permitted if it is paired with a 50% GTA position, and this will be treated as a fully-funded GRA with the award covering the first six credits of scholarship per semester and the summer while the GTA covers the remaining three credits per semester during the academic year.

PhD students cannot be partially funded.

Temporary (hourly) graduate student employment is discouraged and allowed only in limited circumstances.

All fully-funded students must be registered for a minimum of 9 credits in fall and spring or the continuous graduate credit equivalent (GRAD 903).

There is no difference between the cost of coursework credits or research credits. There is a difference in cost when the student attains Continuous Registration status.

When a student reaches the continuous registration phase of their training (GRAD 902 for half-time or GRAD 903 for full time), the charge drops to \$200 for GRAD 902 and \$300 for GRAD 903. The grant budget would be charged that amount and the remainder re-budgeted by the PI for other purposes. There is occasionally a transition period where a student must take a certain number of course or research credits in a given semester to reach the total required credits for the degree that are then “topped off” by GRAD 902 to reach at least 9 credits registration. Again, the grant would be charged first and the college the balance.

### **C. Students funded as predoctoral fellows/trainees**

Predoctoral fellows supported on training grants (individual or institutional) are expected to have the same minimum stipend as GTA/GRA/GAs. If the source stipend is lower, it should be supplemented by the Responsibility Center general fund (or other nonfederal source). This is additional salary, not additional effort. All tuition, fees, and health insurance allowed by the sponsoring source must be requested and expended. At this time, fellowships cannot be supplemented with any source other than the general fund. Even non-federal grants from the state or private sources are disallowed by the Graduate College.

Predoctoral fellows receive the same tuition and fee scholarship as GTA/GRA/GAs, so any expense not covered by the fellowship is covered by the Responsibility Center.

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The Responsibility Center for the student's program pays the health insurance directly (if not an allowable cost on the fellowship) as there is no fringe rate on fellowships.

### **D. Graduate Student Parental Leaves**

All graduate students are allowed 8 weeks of parental leave per the Graduate College policy. The leave time should first be supported by any grant funding, when allowable. In the case that a grant will not support the parental leave time, the students must be supported by the Responsibility Center general fund.

### **E. Buy-out of faculty academic year research time**

Mandatory buy-out - Faculty are sometimes asked to use grant money to buy out a certain portion of AY research time. Such cases usually occur for projects that have no F&A costs allowed, as this is one measure that the College uses to recover funds necessary for paying the A7 tax to the central administration. In such cases, which we call mandatory buy-out, there is no return of F&A to the faculty FRA.

Voluntary buy-out – Faculty may also request to use grant funds to buy out of AY research time, which we refer to as voluntary buy-out. In such cases, faculty who buy out of AY research time on a fully over-headed grant or contract will receive a return of 70% of their direct salary cost (i.e., not including F&A or fringe) to their FRA. These funds will be made available in the fiscal year following the voluntary buy-out after annual effort certification has taken place.

### **F. Buy-out of faculty academic year teaching time**

Each faculty member is assigned a nominal teaching load based on the College's flexible workload policy. Faculty can reduce their nominal teaching load by charging 0.12 FTE of the faculty member's 9-month salary (plus fringe) to external funds for each (3 cr) course that is reduced. Faculty cannot reduce their teaching load below an annual 2 course (6 cr) teaching assignment, except under extraordinary circumstances and with approval of the Dean.

All reductions in assigned teaching workloads, "course buy-outs," require approval of the Dean and the Chair of the Faculty member's home department, preferably with advance notice prior to course scheduling for the relevant semester.