



***FAU Policy: Graduate Student Tuition Budgeted on Grants***

FAU policy requires that tuition be budgeted for graduate tuition when allowed by the sponsor. Depending on the type of grant and the funding agency, GRA tuition support may not be allowed. Please refer to the sponsor's requirements for the allowability of tuition support.

GRAs are eligible to receive tuition benefits up to 27 credit hours in a given academic year provided they meet the requirements outlined in the Graduate College's Tuition Benefits Policy for Graduate Students. The policy can be found using this [link](#).

• **Student Requirements - Graduate Research Assistants**

- 1) The appointment period must be continuous within the official beginning and ending dates of the academic semester or summer session.
- 2) The level of tuition benefit available to students is driven by the FTE of the appointment and enrollment status.
  - a. To receive 100% tuition benefits in the fall and spring semesters, students must have a 0.5 FTE appointment (20 hours per week) and be classified as full-time graduate students.
  - b. Students who have met the conditions in (a) above during the previous fall or spring semester may receive 100% tuition benefits during the summer term with no minimum enrollment requirement provided they have at least a 0.25 FTE appointment.
  - c. Students with FTE employment conditions between 0.25 and 0.50 may receive a prorated tuition benefit based on the FTE appointment and enrollment status which can be found in this [link](#).
  - d. Except as provided by (b) above, students with an enrollment status less than full time (as defined by the Full-Time Graduate Student Classification Status) are eligible to receive 50% tuition benefits provided their appointment is at least 0.25 FTE.
- 3) All credit hours paid by this tuition benefit must be for coursework necessary to complete the graduate degree.
- 4) The maximum number of credit hours for which graduate students can receive tuition benefits is set at 10% above the published credit hour total for the degree program. Courses taken to remove deficiencies as indicated on the Plan of Study are allowable and do not count toward the 10% limit.
- 5) An approved Plan of Study is required to receive tuition benefits beyond the second semester of the assistantship. Students receiving tuition benefits as part of an assistantship are required to file a Plan of Study and obtain final approval from the Graduate College by the end of the second semester of the assistantship.
- 6) Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.00 based on the degree requirements as stipulated on the approved Plan of Study.

- **Budgeting (pre-award)**

Graduate research assistant's (GRA) student tuition support can be budgeted on a research grants when salary support is also budgeted on the same award.

When budgeting tuition on a research grant project, please refer to Tuition and Billing Services Department most current tuition rate which can be found using this [link](#). Only the resident rate portion of the tuition fee can be budgeted and charged to the grant. The non-resident portion of the tuition waiver is covered and processed by the Graduate College and therefore not budgeted on the grant.

Up to 27 credits can be budgeted to the grant per year. To determine the amount to budget, multiply the amount of credits by the resident tuition rate.

If the graduate student will have a 10-hour teaching assistant and 10-hour research assistant positions, then 50% of the tuition support can be budgeted on the grant given that only a 10-hour GRA position is also charged to the grant.

Under if indirect cost is based on modified total direct cost, the total amount of tuition budgeted per year is exempt from IDC.

- **Form 20 (post-award)**

Form 20 must be completed before the hiring process of the GRA can begin. To use tuition benefits for Graduate Research Assistants, prior approval by the Graduate Dean is required. The Principal Investigator is encouraged to budget for Research Assistants at the in-state tuition rate. Should a non-Florida resident be employed, the non-resident fee will be funded by the University's tuition waiver budget.

Form 20 must be submitted and approved by the Academic College Dean at least 15 days prior the anticipated start term.

- **Support and Resources**

For additional assistance or questions, please contact [ResearchOffice@health.fau.edu](mailto:ResearchOffice@health.fau.edu).

Resource Links:

Tuition Benefits Policy for Graduate Students

<https://www.fau.edu/graduate/documents/tuition-benefits-policy-for-graduate-students.pdf>

Tuition Benefit Levels for Graduate Assistants

<https://www.fau.edu/graduate/documents/tuition-benefit-levels-for-graduate-assistants.pdf>

Tuition Rates

<https://www.fau.edu/controllers-office/student-services/tuition-breakdown/>

Graduate College Forms

<https://www.fau.edu/graduate/forms-services/forms/>

Graduate College FAQ

<https://www.fau.edu/graduate/forms-services/graduate-staff-faculty-resources/faq-faculty-staff/>