I. Purpose

Select graduate students at UT Arlington are eligible to participate in a fellowship program designed for doctoral degree seeking students, which will afford them significantly reduced tuition.

- There is a 5-year term limit for all College of Engineering (COE) and College of Science (COS) BS-to-PhD and PhD students for any combination of STEM and/or EGTA fellowship funding.
- During the 5-year term limit, the Office of the Provost will pay for the tuition fellowship of eligible STEM GTAs and EGTAs.
- As announced in a memorandum dated April 22, 2011, the Office of the Provost will not cover the tuition fellowship for eligible STEM GRAs, including those where the sponsoring agency explicitly does not allow STEM tuition as a reimbursable expense. The PI, department or college will need to cover the tuition fellowship for all eligible STEM GRAs not supported on a grant. Grant or contract expiration during a semester will not cause ineligibility. For eligible students appointed to grant and contract accounts that allow the STEM tuition fellowship to be paid under this institutional policy, the costs will be charged to the grant account in direct proportion to their stipend allocated on the grant. Should central administration ever have to absorb the costs to cover the tuition fellowship for an eligible STEM GRA that is the responsibility of the PI, department or college in accordance with this institutional policy, the associated expenses will be reduced from the following year’s distribution of indirect costs from the Dean’s allocation.
- If a student’s status is changed from “EGTA” to “GRA” (either temporarily or permanently), the student’s stipend as a GRA must be between 75% and 100% of his/her previous EGTA stipend.
- COS and COE Principal Investigators will receive a $4,000 Research Incentive Grant Supplement from the Office of the Provost for each STEM tuition eligible GRA for which their full stipend and associated tuition fellowship is paid during the entire Fall and Spring semesters from their funded external grants. Additional information on the Research Incentive Grant Supplement can be found here. The continuation of this supplemental program will be evaluated on an annual basis.

II. Eligibility

A. To be eligible for the STEM Doctoral Tuition Fellowship, a doctoral degree seeking graduate student (STEM Doctoral Student) must:

   i. Be enrolled as a Ph.D.-level student or in a BS-Ph.D. track in the College of Science or College of Engineering.
ii. Hold a Graduate Research (GRA) or Teaching Assistantship (GTA) appointment for at least 50% time in HRMS (i.e., employed 20 hours per week) at the university in either the College of Engineering or the College of Science.

iii. Maintain the 50%-time appointed (as described immediately above) for the entire semester.

iv. Be paid at least the minimum stipend amount required by the academic unit’s GRA/GTA pay plan, but not less than an annualized rate (100% appointment basis in HRMS) of $30,000 ($1,250 per month at 50% appointment).

v. Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

vi. Be unconditionally admitted to a BS-Ph.D or Ph.D. program.

vii. Be enrolled full time (9 hours in a long semester and 6 hours in the summer).

Students who have passed their comprehensive exams may enroll in 6 hours of dissertation (6699); those in their final semester may enroll in either 3 or 6 hours (7399 or 6699). 6 hours of tuition support in long semesters must be provided to students who have passed their comprehensive exams, and 3 or 6 hours of tuition support must be provided to students who are in their final semester.

B. Students for whom the following conditions apply are ineligible for the fellowships:

i. prior enrollment as a graduate student for 14 or more long semesters AND more than 99 semester credit hours of doctoral study at UT Arlington; or

ii. being on academic probation (i.e. having a GPA of less than 3.0).

The full STEM Doctoral Research and Teaching Assistant Fellowship Policy is available at https://mavspace.uta.edu/departments/provost/public/STEM_Tuition_Policy_Current.pdf.

Amounts for the STEM Doctoral Research and Teaching Assistant Fellowship in AY 12-13 may be found under the STEM section of the Provost website at http://www.uta.edu/provost/forms.php#deptchair.

Further information regarding this program, including STEM policies in effect prior to September 1, 2012, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Provost at 2-3952.