

Sustaining Graduate Funding & Mitigating COVID Impacts

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Steps taken to address disruptions

Key Communications in Spring 2020

Sustained assistantships amid shutdown (3/23)

Guidance to fields on shifting research, documenting impacts in the SPR, summer funding plans (3/30)

Extended the spring assistantship period with increase in stipend (4/8)

Flexibility announced for Graduate School funding (4/13)

- ❖ *Emergency summer fellowships – The Graduate School created a fund to provide emergency \$3000 summer fellowships to students who lost planned summer funding*
- ❖ *Fellowship extensions – Graduate School fellowships, including Sage, may be delayed*
- ❖ *Advanced use of Sage dissertation writing fellowships*
- ❖ *Fields allowed to repurpose unused fellowship allocation for advanced students*

Announced remote assistantship policy for students leaving the US (4/29)

Steps taken to address disruptions

Key Communications in Summer/Fall 2020

Stipend rate increase for 2020-21

Announced remote assistantship exceptions for students stranded outside the US or facing hardship (7/31)

Support for TA choice in teaching modality (7/9)

Conversation with DGS about funding flexibility, 2021 cohort sizes, and repurposing admissions fellowships. (11/3,4,5)

Fellowship flexibility offered in field annual funding allocation (Dec.)

Tools for monitoring funding disruptions

Data dashboards and petition tracking

The Graduate School maintains a suite of online data dashboards and visualization tools for DGS, GFA, college leaders

Track key metrics on TTD, completion, attrition, funding, committees, admissions, enrollments, and milestones

Survey data is compiled on dashboards (including Doctoral survey administered now)

Data are reviewed with each field biennially

Students, committees, and fields review student SPRs

Additionally, we can track and analyze petitions to identify trends and patterns

Summary

We do not see evidence that total funding will decrease
2020 doctoral conferrals were relatively strong:

Conferral term	2019	2020
Fall	126	112
Spring	171	160
Summer	231	227
Total	528	499

Fields have funding plans for their funded student that factor in all current commitments, plus additional semesters for reasonable delays

Many fields reduced fall 21 cohorts to further support current students

The Graduate School will share data with GPSA in June