

Important Dates

August 1

- Summer II grades due

August 12

- NEW Directors of Graduate Programs (DGP)/Graduate Service Coordinator (GSC) summer workshop

August 13

- Directors of Graduate Programs (DGP) summer workshop

August 14

- New TA training workshop
- International student orientation

August 19

- New graduate student orientation

August 20

- No Registration Required ETD Review Deadline - Date by which a thesis or dissertation student must have received an unconditional pass on their defense & made their 1st ETD submission in order to avoid registering for the fall semester.

August 21

- First Day of Classes

August 27

- Last day to add a course without permission of instructor

Graduate Service Coordinators (GSC) / Director of Graduate Programs (DGP) Summer Workshops

We will host separate summer workshops for Graduate Service Coordinators (GSCs) & Directors of Graduate Programs (DGPs) this summer. We will also provide a workshop/training specifically for NEW GSCs & DGPs.

- The **DGP summer workshop** will take place **August 13th at 9am** in the College of Textiles Convocation Room. The agenda is available [here](#)
- The **NEW GSC/DGP workshop** will take place **August 12th at 8:30am** in the College of Textiles Convocation Room. New DGPs should also plan on attending the larger DGP workshop.

Course Registration - Fall 2019

We tend to see an increase in schedule revision forms at the beginning of the term. These are mostly from students who “forgot” to register, or didn’t know they had to register for the term in which they defend. Please ask your students to check their schedules and make sure they are registered properly prior to census day, Sept. 4.

Residency

Residency determination is handled through the NC Residency Determination Service (RDS); note that students should only submit an RDS application after they have been physically present in NC for one full year or longer. Additional information is available at go.ncsu.edu/NCRRes.

It is imperative that new out-of-state students, who intend to apply for in-state residency in Fall 2020, begin their residency acts as soon as they arrive in NC. Some examples of residency acts include getting an NC driver’s license, registering to vote, registering a vehicle, and further actions which demonstrate ties to NC.

Graduate Student Support Plan (GSSP)

Receiving GSSP Sponsorship/Benefits

Please remember that no GSSP sponsorship/benefits will apply to a student's billing account until all GSSP eligibility requirements are actively met in SIS and HR. Please see the handout below for a one-page GSSP eligibility summary (checklist).

[GSSP Eligibility Summary \(Checklist\)](#)

If a GSSP benefit (tuition or health insurance) has not applied to a student's billing account, it is likely that one or more of the GSSP eligibility requirements are not met in the system (qualifying assistantships have to be approved *through* the "final approval" level).

When all eligibility requirements are met in HR and SIS, applicable GSSP benefits should apply to the student's billing account within 24-48 hrs. If you (DGP or GSC) find that applicable GSSP benefits have not applied to the student's billing account and (1) all GSSP eligibility requirements are actively met in HR (assistantships approved *through* the Final Approval level) and SIS (full-time enrollment), AND (2) it's been more than 24-48 hrs since all requirements were actively met, please contact the GSSP Office (ncstate-gssp@ncsu.edu) for further assistance.

For more information regarding the GSSP, please see the websites below.

[GSSP for Students -- go.ncsu.edu/gssp](http://go.ncsu.edu/gssp)

[GSSP for Administrators -- go.ncsu.edu/gssp-admin](http://go.ncsu.edu/gssp-admin)

NCSU RA-TA Health Insurance Plan (GSSP) -- August

We began sending preliminary membership eligibility lists to Student Blue last week for the August/Fall coverage period. In order to qualify for coverage on the RA-TA Health Insurance Plan for August, the student must meet [GSSP eligibility requirements](#) for Fall semester -- the RA-TA Health Insurance Plan is a student based health insurance plan (meeting the requirements of the GSSP) and not an employment-based plan.

If a student has questions about RA-TA Health Insurance Plan benefits or dependent coverage, please direct them to the [RA-TA Plan website](#) or the Student Blue customer service line at 1-800-579-8022.

As a reminder, students that are enrolled in the RA-TA Plan for Fall will be automatically waived from coverage on the Mandatory Student Health Insurance Plan (the other student health insurance plan on campus, managed through the Student Health Center).

Please be aware that August terminations (effective 8/1/2019) from the RA-TA Health Insurance Plan were sent to Student Blue last week. Students that were eligible/members over the summer that *will no longer be eligible in Fall* will receive termination notices in the mail from Student Blue (BCBSNC). If the student is ineligible for the RA-TA Plan (GSSP), but continuing their enrollment for Fall, they may be eligible for the [Mandatory Student Health Insurance Plan](#) (managed through the [Student Health Center](#)). Students who are ineligible for the Mandatory Student Health Insurance Plan will need to seek health insurance coverage outside of the University. For more information, see [RA-TA Plan Separation](#).

New Graduate Student Orientation

In-person new graduate student orientation will be held on Monday, August 19 at the McKimmon Center. The morning session (research students) is from 9-11:30am and the afternoon session (non-research students) is from 1:30-4pm. There is also an information fair for all new students from 11:30am-1:30pm. As a reminder, in-person orientation is not required for distance students. New students that are required to attend in-person orientation have received an email with a registration link. Online orientation (which opens August 20) is required for all graduate students. Please visit our [orientation website](#) for more details.

New TA Workshop Registration Closing Soon

We will close [advance registration](#) for the New TA Workshop at noon on August 12. This all-day event will feature some exciting new topics this year, including resources for student well-being and competent communication for student success. In addition to the morning plenary session, participants can choose from fifteen options to personalize their experience in the afternoon. The New TA Workshop will take place at the McKimmon Center on August 14. Please encourage your new teaching assistants to attend!

New Writing Certificate Program

The Graduate School's new Writing Certificate is open to graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in all disciplines, and participating in our writing programs in order to earn certificate credit is free. Participants in the program can earn certificate credit by enrolling in writing-focused workshops and development series in the Graduate School, publishing their research in national and public venues, applying for grants, and much more! The next enrollment period is August 15 through September 1. Check the [Writing Certificate website](#) to learn more and enroll.

Graduate School Professional Development Team to Debut New Career Prep Blog

Coming August 21st: ImPACKful, featuring tips on the job search, awesome resources available at NC State and beyond to aid graduate student and postdoc training, and highlights of current postdocs and graduate students and their work. A call for blog topics as well as postdoctoral and graduate student contributors will be going out soon. Stay tuned!

Fall 2019 Professional Development Workshop Series are Now Open for Registration

The Graduate School Professional Development team regularly offers extended workshop series for graduate students and postdocs who would benefit from sustained support in teaching, writing, communication, and career preparation. Our Fall 2019 development series are now open for registration and cover topics such as Engineering Video Abstracts, Job Search Strategies, Course Design, Writing for Journal Article Publication, and more! Development series are free and are open to graduate students and postdocs in any discipline at any stage of their careers. Learn more about our offerings and enroll on our [website](#).

Recruiting Proposal

This is to announce that The Graduate School is once again accepting proposals for support of graduate student recruitment initiatives. Funding is available to departments/programs to aid in recruitment of new graduate students expected to enroll in either fall 2020 or spring 2021. Up to \$2,000 per proposal may be requested. A request for funding requires a 1:1 match from departmental/graduate program funds. Please note that all state guidelines apply for expenditure of these funds. The application deadline is August 30, 2019.

Additional information and instructions on how to apply for a grant can be found [here](#).

If you have questions, please contact David Shafer (dmschafer@ncsu.edu)

Recruiting Innovation Grants

The Graduate School is once again accepting proposals under the Recruiting Innovation Grant program.

Recruiting Innovation Grants are meant to be one- or two-year projects that promote a comprehensive and holistic overhaul of the recruiting process within your master's or doctoral program. Each grant is for up to \$10,000 and requires a 50% match. Please note that all state guidelines apply for expenditure of these funds. The proposal deadline is September 30.

Additional information and instructions on how to apply for a grant can be found [here](#).

Please contact David Shafer (dmschafer@ncsu.edu) with any questions.

DGP/GSC Contact Information

The GSC and DGP contact pages on the Graduate School website populate directly from the HR system. We have noticed that many new DGPs/GSCs are missing contact information. Please verify you have an accurate phone number available by logging into the MyPackPortal and following this navigation: Employee Self Service>Personal Details>Contact Details. Once on the page make sure there is a "Business" phone number and it is listed as the preferred number.