**Important Dates**

**September 4**
- Census Day
- Last day to enroll (register) or to add a course with instructor permission
- Last day to reduce hours for a tuition adjustment
- Last day to submit an academic load waiver for the Fall 2019 term

**October 19**
- Drop/Revision deadline - Last day to change to credit only. Last day to withdraw or drop a course.

**Residency & RDS**

Fall 2019 is the first semester that second-year graduate students were required to apply for in-state tuition consideration through the RDS system. Due to RDS' policy requiring exactly 365 days of physical presence in NC before applying for residency, we have only recently been made aware of common issues that students have been encountering with the system, but wanted to make you aware of them.

Based on student feedback, it seems that many receive an initial decision of out-of-state, but are ultimately determined to be in-state students upon appealing the decision, where they have the ability to provide supporting documentation. If your students reach out and say they've been denied by RDS, please advise them to appeal the decision as soon as possible (there is a 10-day window) and let them know this seems to be typical for graduate students, who are trying to prove independence from out-of-state parents. You should also be pointing them to the Graduate School’s residency page (go.ncsu.edu/NCRes) for instructions on how to enter their Residency Certification Number (RCN) in MyPack so that their billing information can be updated. Even if they have received an in-state determination from RDS, if they have not entered the RCN in MyPack, they will continue to show as an out-of-state student.

**Slate Refresher & Best Practices Training**

When: Thursday, October 10th from 10am - 11:30am
Where: Graduate School conference room 2328
Sign up required: [online]

**Admissions**

- Starting in August 2019, TOEFL iBT® test score reports include a new set of scores called MyBest™ scores, in addition to the scores from a single test date. MyBest scores — sometimes generically referred to as superscores — are the highest scores on each section (Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing) from all of the test taker’s valid TOEFL iBT test scores from tests taken in the last two years, and a total score that is the sum of the MyBest section scores. Additional information is available [here](#).

The Graduate School will accept recommendations of admission, where the MyBest scores meet our minimum requirement, even though single test date scores may not. MyBest scores will be displayed on the Details tab of the application, as seen below. These will also be available on the Reader dashboard.
If your graduate program requires an enrollment deposit, you will now see an unmet checklist item for it, if they have accepted the offer of admission, but not paid the deposit. It will turn to a green check once they pay. As a reminder, September 1 was the **deadline** to request a deferment of the enrollment deposit for 2019 admit terms.

**Residency**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MyBest TOEFL Scores</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MyBest IBT Listening</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MyBest IBT Reading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MyBest IBT Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MyBest IBT Speaking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MyBest IBT Total</td>
<td>083</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Coming Soon! We’ve redesigned the application cover page (dashboard) that you see as the first page in the Reader. It will be more dynamic and organized, and it will display all education history and all test scores, in one place. Below is an example:

**Program/Degree**: Master of Science (MS) - On-Campus - Computer Engineering

**NCSU ID**: 

**SIS App #**: 

**Unity ID**: 

**Application Slate ID**: 

**Round**: Master’s and Doctoral Programs

**Upload Materials**

**Checklist**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Insert Requirement</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>🚧 Official Transcript (Anna University)</td>
<td>Enrollment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>🚧 Enrollment Deposit</td>
<td>Enrollment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>🚧 Certificate of Financial Responsibility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ 12/23/2018 Unofficial Transcript (Anna University)</td>
<td>Received</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ 12/23/2018 Official GRE scores</td>
<td>Received</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ 12/23/2018 Official TOEFL or IELTS scores</td>
<td>Received</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3MT is coming
Please encourage interested students to attend our 3 Minute Thesis workshops on September 11, 13, and 16. Only the workshop participants will be invited to sign up for the preliminary rounds and ultimately, a chance to compete in our fifth annual 3MT contest on October 29! Visit our page for more information or contact Katie Homar (kshomar@ncsu.edu) with questions.

The Professional Development team wants to hear from you
Do you want to learn more about the professional development support our team can offer your graduate students and postdocs? Would you like us to visit your department to speak with students, postdocs, faculty, and/or staff? Please contact your professional development liaison below to make arrangements.

- College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Chris Smith (ctsmit23@ncsu.edu)
SMART Scholarship Information Session with Department of Defense Representative
September 9 - 10am or 1pm (same session both times)
Location Centennial Campus - exact room TBD
Info: The Department of Defense (DoD) SMART Scholarship-for-Service program provides a unique opportunity for our STEM students. SMART Scholarship awards include full tuition, internships, a generous cash allowance, health insurance, and a rewarding job after graduation working as a civilian (non-military) in a DoD lab or facility. Open to bachelor’s, master’s, and PhD students.

NNSA Virtual Information Session with Dr. Leesa Duckworth, University Liaison
Thursday, September 12 @ 12pm
Location: The Graduate School, Main Conference Room
Info: NGFP places highly qualified graduate students into year-long assignments across the NNSA nuclear security mission space. Specifically for graduate students.

NSF-GRFP Preparation Workshop Panel
Tuesday, September 17 @ 11am
Location: Talley Student Union - Piemont/Mountains Ballroom
Info: Panel discussion format - this presentation will focus solely on how to compile and write a competitive NSF-GRFP application package. This workshop will focus almost entirely on providing advice for putting together a winning application - not on eligibility and technical questions. RSVP here.