

## Important Dates

August 4

- NEW DGP/GSC summer workshop part 2 - Focus on Assistantships (NextGen), GSSP & Technology

August 5

- International student orientation

August 6-7

- New Teaching Assistant (TA) workshop

August 10

- 1st day of fall classes

August 14

- Last day to add a course without instructor's permission

August 18

- No registration required ETD deadline

August 21

- Census day
- Last day to submit an academic load waiver for the fall

September 7

- Labor Day - the university is OPEN, and classes will be held.

## Admissions

Be sure to wrap up your fall 2020 applications that are still pending a department decision. Classes begin August 10th, so fall applications should be processed prior to the term start date. If your program is full, pending applications should be denied or moved to a future admit term.

Likewise, if your application is still available to applicants for fall 2020, but you are no longer accepting new students for the term, please email Lindsay at [lwgentil@ncsu.edu](mailto:lwgentil@ncsu.edu), and request to have your application cycle closed for the term.

## Course Registration - Fall 2020

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, Aug. 21st.

## 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/NCRes](http://go.ncsu.edu/NCRes).

It is imperative that new out-of-state students, who intend to apply for in-state residency in Fall 2021, begin their residency acts as soon as they arrive in NC. Some examples of residency acts include getting a NC driver’s license, registering to vote, registering a vehicle, and further actions which demonstrate ties to NC.

## Advanced Enrollment Deposits

As a reminder, if your graduate program requires an enrollment deposit, September 1 is the [deadline](#) to request a deferment of the enrollment deposit for students deferring from 2020 admit terms.

## New Graduate Catalog and Handbook

There is a new look and a new URL for the Graduate School Catalog/Handbook.

Catalog: <http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/>

Handbook: <http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/graduate-handbook/>

If you have any links to our old Catalog or Handbook, make sure you update your URLs.

## NSF grant workshop coming in September

Do you have students who plan to apply for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship? The University Fellowships Office will host a virtual preparatory webinar on September 15 at 11am. The webinar will be in the form of a panel, with time for questions and answers. It will also be recorded in the event you cannot participate. More information to come in the August newsletter sent directly to graduate students.

### **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](mailto: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)**

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 the 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 we will be sending August terminations (effective 8/1/2020) from the RA-TA Health Insurance Plan to Student Blue next 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](#).

### **Recruiting Proposals**

The Graduate School is once again accepting "[recruiting proposals](#)" and "[recruiting innovation proposals](#)". Recruiting proposals may be for initiatives to aid in recruitment of new graduate students expected to enroll in either fall 2021 or spring 2022. Up to \$2,000 per proposal may be requested. A request for funding requires a 1:1 match from departmental/graduate program funds. Recruiting Innovation proposals may request funds for one- or two-year larger scale projects that promote a comprehensive and holistic overhaul of the recruiting process within your master's or doctoral program. Each Recruiting Innovation Grant is for up to \$10,000 and requires a 50% match.

### Professional Development Consultations

The Graduate School Professional Development Team is happy to offer one-on-one virtual consultations regarding writing, teaching, career exploration, faculty job searches and more, via Zoom video conferencing. Graduate students and postdoc trainees can schedule appointments with [Vanessa Doriott Anderson](#) (Senior Director of Teaching and Communication Programs), [Katie Homar](#) (Director of Academic and Engineering Writing Support), [Chris Smith](#) (Postdoctoral Affairs Program Manager), and [Joe Aldinger](#) (Director of Accelerate to Industry) by clicking their names to see available meeting times. Please share these schedules with your scholars.

### Virtual 3MT: Call for Contestants

Our 6th annual [3-Minute-Thesis](#) contest will be held virtually via Zoom on December 2, 2020. Encourage your trainees to get involved now by registering for a [3MT Workshop Session](#) on August 19, 25, or 26. Registration for the sessions opens August 3. Due to the new virtual nature of the contest, workshops are a prerequisite for competing in the 3MT preliminary rounds in September. Trainees who would like to compete but cannot attend a workshop should contact [Katie Homar](#) for alternative arrangements.

### Online Professional Development Workshops

The Graduate School Professional Development Team continues to offer support to graduate students and postdocs through virtual platforms. Our offerings include teaching and writing workshops, industry career preparation through our A2i program, and more. We will continue to add programming, so please share our [workshops page](#) with grad and postdoc trainees in your department. Contact [Vanessa Doriott Anderson](#) with questions.

### Ahead of the Pack

The Ahead of the Pack development series for first-year graduate students will be done virtually this semester! Beginning on August 31, Ahead of the Pack is a comprehensive development series that supports adjustment to grad school. It provides sustained support, practice, and feedback on key aspects of graduate school and sets you on a path for success. Weekly sessions will cover strategies for wellness, time management, communication, writing, and career management, among other topics. Registration will be opening soon on our [workshops page](#). Contact [Stella Jackman-Ryan](#) with any questions.

### ImPACKful Blog

ImPACKful's [Academic Packways](#) series gives tips on constructing necessary documents for any faculty application. With the typical faculty application cycle beginning in the fall, now is a great time to get started on your application materials! This series organizes these informational pieces along with interviews with faculty/lecturers in a variety of roles.

*We want to highlight graduate students, postdocs, and their work in our ImPACKful Blog!*

- Please complete [this form](#) to nominate yourself or someone else to be featured in ImPACKful.
- Have an idea for an ImPACKful story? Use [this form](#).
- Want to write for ImPACKful? Email [opa-assistant@ncsu.edu](mailto:opa-assistant@ncsu.edu)

### BASF Info Session **(\*\*Attach flier)**

BASF, the world's largest chemical company is holding an informational session for their PhD Leadership Development Program. The PhD LDP is a competitive, 2-year program that develops high potential PhDs into future leaders within BASF LDPs complete three 8-month rotations (or one 3-month summer internship) across BASF sites, industries, and job functions, gaining a diverse skill set and expansive network along the way. See the attached flyer for more information and instructions on how to register.