




Date: July 14, 2015

To: Deans

From: Rafael L. Bras, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs 

Copy: Susan Cozzens, Jilda Garton, James Fortner, Jim Kirk, Monique Tavares, Jennifer Herazy, Robert Foy, College Financial Directors

Subject: Budgeting and Charging Tuition on Pre-doctoral Fellowships Supported by the U.S. Federal Government

Georgia Tech is increasingly successful at attracting graduate students who have been awarded fellowships and in obtaining grants that supply the funds for traineeships. These are prestigious awards (typically federally funded), which provide great flexibility to students while expanding our research capability. Unfortunately, many of these programs do not provide sufficient cost-of-education allowances to cover tuition at Georgia Tech. Some require the institution to pay mandatory fees. Some do not provide competitive stipends.

The following general principles apply to federally-funded fellowships and traineeships of this type:

1. Where permitted by the agency, Georgia Tech will treat fellows/trainees as Graduate Research Assistant employees and charge tuition remission and applicable fringe benefits to the grant. Examples include NSF IGERT trainees under awards administered by OSP.
2. Georgia Tech will pay mandatory fees only if required by the sponsor under an established policy. Note: This principle refers to Georgia Tech central funding support being used only if required by the sponsor.
3. Georgia Tech will collect Facilities and Administrative Costs at the level established in each agency's solicitation. For example, Facilities and Administrative costs are currently capped at 8% on NIH's Kirchstein/NRSA awards.
4. Georgia Tech central funds will not be used to pay differential tuition. The differential for each term will be adjusted to reflect all tuition revenue from these students as returned to central tuition revenue.

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For FY16, pending decisions on budget availability, the following federal programs will be eligible for central support:

- NSF Graduate Research Fellowships (tuition and fees)
- NIH Traineeships (T32, T90, F31; tuition only)
- EPA STAR Fellowships (tuition only)
- Eisenhower Transportation Fellowships (tuition only).

One privately-funded program already receives central support, the (National Consortium for Graduate Degrees for Minorities in Science and Engineering).

If you wish to nominate another program, please contact Vice Provost Susan Cozzens. The program will be reviewed on an annual basis. The specific procedures for implementing this support are available at <http://www.grad.gatech.edu/fs-fellowship-procedures>.