

Department Funding Beyond Five Years Policy

Except under exceptional circumstances, graduate students should not expect funding from the Department beyond five years.

Funding beyond the fifth year will be available if and only if the Department: (1) has need for a course that a graduate student is able to teach, (2) has no graduate student within his/her normal five years of service available to teach it, and (3) has the resources to pay the graduate student stipend.

Any request by a graduate student for funding beyond the fifth year should be made to the Chair of the Department by the eighth week of the prior semester. Such a request will be evaluated according to the following considerations, in order of importance:

1. The department has need for a graduate student to teach and available resources to offer the stipend (as above).
2. The graduate student should be making exemplary progress toward his/her degree. Normal (as opposed to exemplary) progress would mean, for example, having been advanced to candidacy and having made substantial progress on the dissertation. Exemplary progress will be considered as having significant accomplishments beyond simply meeting required benchmarks. So, as an example, a student may have been pursuing publication of his/her work, or his/her program of study may have required coursework, fieldwork, archival work beyond the norm, which has required additional time.
3. The student has applied for *and received* outside funding that has supported his/her work for one or more years in the program.
4. The student has had extenuating circumstances, e.g., an extended illness, that has impeded his or her progress.

Graduate students should be aware that course assignments after their five years are very likely to be for online courses and so should be prepared for that likelihood.

Passed by the Faculty, October 2013