

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CURRENT STUDENTS

Funding

Most students admitted have received financial support in the form of nine-month Teaching Assistantships (\$15,700 per year for teaching two courses or its equivalent) provided both academic eligibility and steady academic progress toward degree are maintained.

As per the Grad School Handbook: A non-resident student who is awarded a fellowship or assistantship appointment may be eligible for a Tuition Remission Award reducing tuition to in-state rates. In addition to tuition remission, non-resident and resident students who are awarded a fellowship or assistantship appointment may be eligible for an In-State Tuition Award.

Tuition remission and in-state tuition awards are available fall and spring semesters only. No summer awards are made. Students must be on-campus unless the award requires their presence at another campus or research center.

You will also be responsible for paying your fees. In addition, the department will fund student health insurance for teaching assistants.

The [Office of Scholarships & Student Aid](#) has information about financial aid and loans. They should be consulted as early as possible by those seeking such financial assistance.

The Graduate School also awards some fellowships and grants that you may apply for later in the program: <http://gradschool.unc.edu/funding/gradschool/currentstudents.html#doctoral>

Fees

Fees are typically around \$950 per semester, but rates fluctuate each year. Students are responsible for paying their own fees.

Health Insurance

All students attending the University must be covered by health insurance. The Department of Communication Studies will fund health insurance for any student on a Teaching Assistantship through [Student Blue RA/TA Insurance](#).

Residency

In order to be considered for in-state residency status for tuition purposes any student, admitted to and enrolled in a graduate degree program administered by The Graduate School, with an undetermined or

nonresident status is required to submit a residency application in order to be considered for re-classification for in-state tuition benefits. You may find more information at the Grad School's website on [residency](#) or reviewing the [North Carolina State Residency Manual](#). The Department recommends that you apply for residency after one year in the program.

FERPA

FERPA regulations determine who is eligible to access student records data, the circumstances under which data may be released, and procedures to follow in requesting access to student data. The Policy may be found here (<http://registrar.unc.edu/academic-services/policies-procedures/student-rights/student-privacy-rights/upm-21-access-to-student-records/>).

Graduate Students teaching courses must pass a FERPA Quiz before they will be given access to student records. Instructions on how to access the online training class may be found here (<http://registrar.unc.edu/training/ferpa/ferpa-instructions/>).

Sakai Information

If you are teaching a course, you will need to create a Sakai site. It will not show up in Sakai automatically. You can follow the tutorial on how to create your site here: http://sakaitutorials.unc.edu/?Create_Your_Course_Site

Registration

The Registrar's office gives a complete guide on how to register for your courses through Connect Carolina. <http://registrar.unc.edu/registration/registration-guide/>