**Hot Topics for New Graduate Students**

The Graduate School has taken note of the most commonly asked questions our office receives from students. We will have advisors at the “Graduate School Table” during the resource fair following orientation to answer all of your questions.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

Q: **I was admitted provisionally, what do I need to do during this first semester?**
A: If your letter indicates that you have been accepted provisionally, please make sure to complete your Graduate School file as soon as possible to prevent delays in future registrations. If you are unsure of what you are missing, please refer to your acceptance letter. You may also contact jml0006@auburn.edu to find out more details. Students who are admitted provisionally will not qualify for federal financial aid.

Q: **I was admitted as a non-degree student, do I qualify for financial aid?**
No, only students who are admitted into a degree seeking program may qualify for and receive federal financial aid.

Q: **How many hours are considered full-time?**
A: 9 (nine hours) each term.

Q: **How many hours qualify you for financial aid or deferring current loans?**
A: 5 (five hours), Students may utilize the 7@0/8@0 form (found on the Graduate School website) for the purpose of loan deferment as well as to qualify for federal financial aid when a student is enrolled in less than 5 hours.

Q: **What is required to maintain good Academic Standing?**
A: You must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher to remain in good standing AND to qualify for financial aid and the Tuition Fellowship.

Q: **What happens if my GPA falls below 3.0?**
A: You will be placed on probation.

Q: **What happens if I’m placed on probation?**
A: You have 11 hours or two terms to bring your GPA back up to 3.0. Students will not be eligible for federal financial aid. Also, students who are on an assistantship will lose the in-state portion of the tuition waiver (thus the student will have to pay the in-state tuition rate).
Q: What happens if I’m not able to bring my GPA back up to 3.0 within the allotted time?
A: You will be suspended. To be able to continue in your program, your advisor and department head must approve a Remediation Plan.

Q: What happens if IN, NR or IP grades are not cleared within six months of the end of the term (graduation day)?
A: The IN, NR or IP grade is converted to an F and must be repeated

Q: When must I complete a Graduation Check and submit my Planner in DegreeWorks (Plan of Study)?
A: No later than the TERM BEFORE you plan to graduate.

Q: Am I required to enroll every semester?
A: Yes if you have an Assistantship. If you do not have an assistantship then you are not required to enroll every semester. However, as a policy graduate students must be registered for 2 out of the 3 terms in an academic year.

Q: May I take a Leave of Absence?
A: Students may request a leave of absence by completing the Leave of Absence Form.

Q: Where can I find a list of deadlines and important dates for Graduate Students?
A: The Graduate School Academic Calendar has these dates outlined several academic terms in advance.

Q: What is the time limit to complete a degree?
A: Master’s students have 6 years and Doctoral students have 10 years from the date the program is started.

Q: How many hours of tuition are covered under the Tuition Fellowship system if I have GTA/GRA/GA position?
A: Masters and Doctoral students receive the hours required for their program PLUS 10%; If a student chooses to complete a master and a doctoral degree at Auburn the student will receive the maximum hours allowed for both degree programs.

Q: How many semesters may I qualify to be on an assistantship?
A: The master’s degree is limited to 12 semesters and the doctoral degree is limited to 24 semesters.
Helpful Links/Resources found on our website.
Students may visit www.grad.auburn.edu and click on “STUDENTS”

Academic Resources:

- Academic Calendar
- Masters, EdS, and Doctoral Studies Checklist
- Forms
- FAQ
- Policies
- Versatile PhD

Assistantships:

- Guidelines
- Handbook
- Health Insurance
- Tuition Fellowship

Funding:

- Cost of Attendance
- Thesis/Dissertation Research Grants
- Travel Grants

Additional Resources:

Auburn University Bulletin – bulletin.auburn.edu
Career Center – www.auburn.edu/career
Tigermail – tigermail.auburn.edu
AU Access – auaccess.auburn.edu
Parking Services – www.auburn.edu/parking