

<u>Subject</u>
PhD Scholarships and Fellowships, and Graduate
Assistantships

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Responsible Office: DVC Research & Grad. Studies

12. PhD Scholarships and Fellowships, and Graduate Assistantships

Graduate Studies Policies Manual

Overview

Defines terms, conditions and eligibility criteria associated with scholarships, fellowships and assistantships offered by the University to graduate students.

The University awards Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships to graduate students for two main reasons: (1) To enhance students' access to graduate education by helping the students financially and, hence, make their graduate education more affordable and (2) to further the professional development of students as future teachers and researchers by engaging them in teaching and research experiences in their areas of studies.

Scope

Applies to all eligible graduate, degree-seeking students at UAEU.

Policy

Definition and Explanation of Terms

PhD Scholarships

- 1. PhD Scholarships are awards designated for students of UAE nationality who are enrolled full-time in a PhD program at UAEU. PhD Scholarships are awarded based on evidence of academic achievement and potential for research. The University sets the criteria for awarding PhD Scholarships, and the University determines the number of PhD Scholarships it will make available in a given year. Recipients of scholarships are required to provide teaching support services to the University during the term of their award. It is the responsibility of the individual Colleges to ensure that each scholarship recipient is assigned the appropriate teaching duty.
- 2. Other providers (whether a foundation or any other external organization or individual) may fund additional PhD Scholarships. They may set specific conditions for recipient selection in addition to the University's criteria. If this is the case, an agreement between that party and UAEU must be approved prior to granting any scholarships sponsored by the donor.
- 3. Scholarship awards cover, at a minimum: (i) full cost of tuition and other fees, (ii) full cost of housing accommodation, (iii) a monthly stipend to cover living expenses, and (iv) health insurance for the awardee. Based on the available resources, the University may also provide PhD candidates basic support for their dissertation research. Such support may be complemented, depending on the research requirements, through internal or external grants by the PhD advisor and the PhD student.

PhD Fellowships

1. PhD Fellowships are awards designated for any eligible students who are enrolled on a full-time basis in a PhD program at UAEU, with priority for Emirati students. PhD Fellowships provide financial assistance based on evidence of academic achievement and potential for research. The University sets the criteria for awarding PhD Fellowships, and the University determines the number of PhD Fellowships to be made available in a given



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year, based on the recommendation of the respective Colleges taking into consideration the resources available to award the fellowships and likely support for the PhD research through internal and external grants.

- 2. Other providers (whether a foundation or any other external organization or individual) may fund additional PhD Fellowships. If this is the case, an agreement between that party and UAEU must be approved prior to granting any fellowships sponsored by the donor.
- 3. PhD Fellowships include, at a minimum: (i) a full tuition and fee waiver, and (ii) health insurance for the awardee.

Other Fellowships or Financial Awards for Graduate Students

The University or other national or international organizations may provide other types of fellowships to Master or PhD students in pursuance of educational goals. The terms and support provided is determined by the awarding entity, and in cases in which the fellowships or awards are from outside the UAEU, such awards to the UAEU students should be agreed upon between the UAEU and the awarding entity.

Graduate Assistantships

- 1. Graduate Assistants are typically full-time graduate students (Master's and Doctoral levels) who participate in teaching, research, or administrative activities in exchange for financial support at the University.
- 2. Graduate Assistantships may be awarded to graduate students who, based on their credentials, are deemed likely to be highly successful as students and are also assessed as being capable of contributing to research, teaching, or service for the university.
- 3. Graduate Assistantships contribute to student professional development with the primary purpose of assisting students in the successful completion of their academic program. Activities incorporated in the work of a Graduate Assistant should therefore be relevant to the student's program of study as well as contributing to the University's teaching, research/creative activity, or service efforts. The department/unit providing the assistantship determines the nature and scope of the Assistantship assignment.
- 4. The University provides medical insurance for Graduate Assistants if they do not have coverage already, and pays them a monthly stipend, which is stipulated in the award of the Assistantship.
- 5. Each Assistant should have a specific 'Contract' and Job Description, and a clear reporting line within the Department/Unit. The supervisor is expected to provide the Graduate Assistant with periodic oral and written assessment and feedback regarding performance.