Fellowship Deferral Policy for Graduate Center Fellows, Provost’s Enhancement Fellows, Neuroscience Fellows, CUNY Science Scholars, and Five-Year Tuition Fellows

(Effective Fall 2020)

Fellowship Deferral Policy

1. First semester students are not eligible for a fellowship deferment or a leave of absence. Second semester students are not eligible for a fellowship deferment if they take a leave of absence, unless the student can provide documentation from a physician that the student is medically unable to return to school for the spring semester. With such documentation and approval from the student's Executive Officer and the Provost's Office, the student may defer one semester of their fellowship to a sixth year. This semester of deferment will count towards the maximum of two semester maximum as outlined below.

2. After their first year, students on Graduate Center Fellowships (GCF), and Provost’s Enhancement Fellowships (PE) who take a leave of absence from the Graduate Center may defer a maximum of two semester of their fellowships (tuition, financial aid fellowship, benefits and services) to a sixth year. Students on Five-Year Tuition Fellowships (TF) may defer their tuition award for up to two semesters.

3. After their first year, students on Neuroscience Fellowships (NF) and CUNY Science Scholars (CSS) who take a leave of absence from the Graduate Center may defer a maximum of two semesters of their fellowships (tuition, financial aid fellowship, benefits and service) to a sixth year. The NF or CSS may be deferred only for medical reasons or to conduct research in an off-campus setting and must have the approval of the program’s Executive Office and the student’s Research Mentor.

4. Students holding Science Fellowships and students who are offered alternate CUNY funding should contact the Provost's Office for more information (aellis@gc.cuny.edu and rmaldonado@gc.cuny.edu).

5. COVID 19 – For the duration of the COVID emergency, the GC’s deferment policy will be flexible for students facing additional challenges as a result of the pandemic.

The deferral assumes that the student is also on a Leave of Absence from the GC during the semester(s) of deferment. There are separate administrative processes and guidelines for taking a leave of absence. For more information contact the Registrar’s Office.
Students must submit the Request for Fellowship Deferment Form at least one month before the beginning of the semester they want to begin the deferral.