

**External Award Policy for Graduate Center Fellows,
Provost's Enhancement Fellows, Mathematics Fellows, Humanities Fellows, Neuroscience
Fellows, CUNY Science Scholars, and Tuition Fellows**

(Effective Fall 2017)

External Funding

If a student is awarded external (non-CUNY) competitive funding while holding the **Graduate Center Fellowship (GCF)**, **Math Fellowship (MF)**, or **Provost's Enhancement Fellowship (PE)**, the student has the following three options:

1. Defer the GCF, MF or PE to a sixth year as described in the GC's Fellowship [Deferment Policy](#). This option is available for a maximum of two semesters.
2. If the external award is at least \$12,000 annually, students can accept the external award and receive from the Graduate Center a top-up to a maximum of \$5,000 over the annual stipend of their fellowship and be released from their normal fellowship service in that year. Students with top-ups are awarded a Graduate Assistantship D, with limited service to be arranged by their Executive Officer and receive the tuition they would normally receive under the terms of their fellowship and are eligible for NYSHIP health insurance. All years in which a top-up is provided are counted as part of the five years of the GC fellowship.
3. Keep both the external award and the GCF, MF, or PE. There is no Graduate Center cap on what the student can receive, but service associated with the GCF, MF, or PE will still be required. Students should note, however, that some external awards may limit additional service the student can perform or support they can accept. Under that circumstance, the rules of the external agency prevail.

If a student is offered external funding while holding the **Humanities Fellowship (HF)**, the student has the following two options:

1. If their external award is at least \$12,000 annually, students can accept the external award and receive from the Graduate Center a top-up to a maximum of \$5,000 over the annual stipend of their fellowship and be released from their normal fellowship service in that year. Students with top-ups are awarded a Graduate Assistantship D, with limited service to be arranged by their Executive Officer and receive the tuition they would normally receive under the terms of their fellowship and are eligible for NYSHIP health insurance. All years in which a top-up is provided are counted as part of the five years of the GC fellowship.
2. The student can keep both the external award and the HF. There is no Graduate

Center cap on what the student can receive, but service associated with the HF will still be required. Students should note, however, that some external awards may limit additional service the student can perform or support they can accept. Under that circumstance, the rules of the external agency prevail.

If a student is offered external funding while holding the **Neuroscience Fellowship (NF)**, **CUNY Science Scholarship (CSS)** or **Tuition Fellowship (TF)** the student has the following two options:

1. Defer the fellowship and roll over the NF, CSS, or TF award to a sixth year as in the [deferment policy](#). This option is available for a maximum of two semesters.
2. Keep both the external funding and the NF, CSS or TF. There is no Graduate Center cap on what the student can receive, but service associated with the NF or CSS will still be required. Students should note, however, that some external awards may limit additional service the student can perform or support they can accept. Under that circumstance, the rules of the external agency prevail.

Students wishing to defer their fellowships should note that there are separate administrative processes and separate guidelines for taking a leave of absence from the Graduate Center, which are described in the Graduate Center's Student Handbook.

To [defer a fellowship](#) or receive a top-up students must submit the required form at least one month before the beginning of the semester in which they want to begin the deferral or receive the top-up.

Students holding Science Fellowships or other graduate center awards not listed should contact the Provost's Office for more information.

Students who are offered alternate CUNY funding should contact the [Provost's Office](#) for more information.