

**From:** College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies  
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## Important graduate studies information for programs and units.

### Tuition

A [tuition offset](#) will be applied to continuing international graduate students' tuition to offset the increase to the international differential. These offsets will be available for up to one year for Master's and up to three years for PhD starting on September 1, 2021. An additional year of support for PhD students currently in their first year of program in 2020-21 will also be provided as a bursary in their fifth year in program.

Offsets will automatically be applied to the students' accounts, but will not show until 7 days prior to the tuition payment deadline each term.

Students received formal notice of this offset from central communications on April 28<sup>th</sup> and will receive a reminder at the start of the fall term.

The tuition offset for continuing international students is determined by program and will be as follows:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Offset</b>
Standard Course-Based Masters	\$166 per 3 credit units (\$55.33 per credit unit)
Standard Thesis/Project Masters	\$345 per term

Standard PhD	\$345 per term
MPAcc	\$181.58 per credit unit
MBA	\$154.90 per credit unit
MSC Finance	\$575.00 per term
MPH	\$1,327.28 per term
MES/PhD	\$375.59 per term
MSEM/MSs	\$24.74 per credit unit

Domestic students in the MPH and MSEM/MSs programs will also be eligible for tuition offsets as determined by their respective schools. The values of these offsets will be:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Offset</b>
MPH (Domestic)	314.15 per term
MSEM/MSs (Domestic)	\$13.67 per credit unit

### **Fall Term Planning**

Despite our best efforts, international students planning to begin in Fall 2021 might still experience delays in study permit processing or travel arrangements and may not be able to begin their program at the beginning of the term as anticipated. To help reduce the impact on affected students, some thoughts as you continue to plan for fall:

- Where possible, and dependent on how your program is offering fall term classes, consider how a student might ‘catch up’ should they be unable to arrive at the beginning of term.
- If it’s in the best interest of the student, a deferral of admission to a subsequent term might be an option to consider. Our team will be as flexible as possible to accommodate deferrals of admission in these circumstances.
- There are a variety of resources on campus that are available to students and postdocs like [ISSAC](#), [Student Wellness](#), the [Grad Hub](#) and more. The [CGPS will connect you](#) to resources if you are unsure who to talk to.

The gradual return to campus over the fall term will present us with the opportunity to consider blended, fully in-person or continued fully virtual examinations, committee meetings, and defences. The CGPS is working to ensure we have the technology, procedures,

and guidelines in place to support each option, but as technology will in several cases be the limiting factor, programs should begin a discussion around their preferences and capacities (ie: meeting rooms with the necessary technology to allow for a defence where most members are present, but 1-2 are joining remotely) in these areas.

### **Course or program proposals/modifications**

CGPS works with proponents to develop strong and coordinated graduate program proposals and changes. Questions can be directed to [Kelly Clement](#), Committee and Programs Administrator.

### **Paying International Students**

We will continue to use the same procedures for paying the tuition and fees for international students studying outside of Canada who remain unable to travel for the Fall 2021 Term. Detailed procedural documents will again be shared closer to the start of term, but if you have any questions in the interim, please email [intlgradstudent.payment@usask.ca](mailto:intlgradstudent.payment@usask.ca).

### **Supervisor Handbook**

A respectful and productive relationship between a student and their supervisor is critical to a student's academic success. The [Graduate Supervisor Handbook](#) (Faculty Edition) is intended to help supervisors better understand their roles and to ensure that the supervision of graduate students at USask is of the highest quality.

### **CGPS Service Desk**

As we continue to fine-tune the CGPS Service Desk, we've developed the attached tip sheet to assist in your use of the platform and answer some of the regular Service Desk questions we've been receiving. **Please note that any question/inquiry/process regarding your program or a student within your program that is being directed to a CGPS Program Advisor or our Awards team must be submitted through the Service Desk.** Ensuring all of our correspondence with units flows through the Service Desk not only helps us to manage this work more efficiently, but it also ensures we are able to respond to your request even when your assigned CGPS program advisor is away (particularly important as we approach the summer holiday season).

## **Important information for students and postdoctoral fellows.**

### **Documents and new students**

Given the unprecedented strains the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on higher education institutions worldwide, we will continue to be as flexible as possible in supporting our incoming students. A few things to keep in mind as we prepare for the arrival of new students this fall:

- We are encouraging all students to request official documents (ie: final transcripts, language test scores, etc.) be sent electronically to CGPS from the issuing institution whenever possible. This helps reduce delays caused by transit/mail quarantines and in some cases where institutions remain closed can significantly reduce the amount of time it takes the issuing institution to process the request.
- If students are unable to have official documents sent from the issuing institution prior to the start of their graduate program, CGPS will accept provisional proof of completion of previous degree(s) to temporarily satisfy admission conditions.
- For students who are unable to have their documents sent prior to the beginning of the fall term, please notify your CGPS program advisor and we will temporarily remove the associated holds on the student's account to allow them to register for fall classes if they can provide proof that they have requested their documents/the issuing institution is not currently able to release documents.
- If by December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, students still remain unable to provide official documents to satisfy the conditions of admission, they can reach out to [grad.studies@usask.ca](mailto:grad.studies@usask.ca) to discuss options.

### **Study Permits and Arrivals**

If students have questions or concerns about study the study permit application process, please reach out to our International Student and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC). ISSAC continues to offer [virtual advising for international students via Zoom](#). The [Grad Hub](#) is also a great resource for students as they plan for life in Saskatoon

As recently announced by the federal government, as of the end of day July 5<sup>th</sup>, fully vaccinated travelers who are permitted to enter Canada will no longer be subject to the quarantine requirement, including the stay in a government-authorized hotel. Full details are available [here](#).

### **Work Permits and Arrivals for International Postdoctoral Fellows**

IRCC processing times for work permits are far behind schedule and continue to be lengthy for Postdoctoral Fellows. Processing times are also impacted by the applicant's country of origin. Currently, international borders remain closed for individuals traveling to Canada on a work permit. If you have any questions about appointing a Postdoctoral Fellow, please contact Chelsea Smith, Coordinator for Postdoctoral Studies ([chelsea.smith@usask.ca](mailto:chelsea.smith@usask.ca)).

## **Student-Supervisor Agreement**

A reminder that all newly enrolled thesis-based students are required to complete a [Student-Supervisor Agreement](#) together with their supervisor(s).

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With graduate faculty mentorship, USask graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, recognized for their work ethic, resourceful nature, and determination will continue to build on our history of success to address the world's challenges now and in the future. Have a great summer.

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### **Attachments:**

[CGPSServicDeskTipSheet.pdf](#)