

# University of Georgia Graduate Assistantship Payment Plans

## Payment Plan Details

The University of Georgia Graduate Assistantship Payment Plans allow a student on a graduate assistantship to defer payment of the current term's tuition and fees, health insurance, and parking permit. The deferrable balance is calculated after all actual and expected financial aid is applied to the student account. UGA now offers two separate graduate assistant payment plans to select from for the fall and spring term(s). Under the payment plan terms, enrollees can select to defer the balance in either four or three equal installments throughout the semester (note this timing is compressed in summer due to the shortened nature of the term).

Students must choose a scheduled payment method to cover their deferred payments. A student can schedule payments via an automatic deduction from their bank account or credit card. Please ensure your bank or credit card information for scheduled payments is up to date to avoid issues with processing your payment. Scheduled payments must clear the bank in order to satisfy your payment obligation. Payments returned by your bank are subject to a \$30 fee and funds for failed payment are considered due immediately.

Summer Term Payment Plan: The summer payment plan allows a student on a graduate assistantship to defer payment for up to 50% of the current term's tuition and mandatory fee charges or the account balance, whichever is less. The deferrable balance is calculated after all actual and expected financial aid is applied to the student account. Financial aid is defined as any anticipated or disbursed aid, third party contract payments, and tuition and fee waivers. A student enrolling in the plan will be required to make a down payment at the time of enrollment if their account balance after aid is greater than 50% of the tuition and mandatory fee charges for the term.

Only students that are registered for classes in the Extended Session, Thru Session or any combination of sessions that include Extended Session and/or Thru Session are eligible to participate in the Summer payment plan. If you are enrolled in only May Session or Short Sessions, you are NOT eligible to participate in the payment plan. If you do enroll and are determined to be ineligible, you will be removed from the plan and full payment will be due by the published payment deadlines to avoid schedule cancellation.

## GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP PAYMENT PLAN FAQ'S

### **Q: How does a plan work?**

The University of Georgia Graduate Assistantship Payment Plans are installment plans that allows students on a graduate assistantship to defer payment of the current term's tuition and fees, health insurance, and parking permit. The deferrable balance is calculated after all actual and expected financial aid is applied to the student account. Financial aid is defined as any anticipated or actual aid, third party and scholarship payments, waivers or any other credits on your account.

Summer Term: The summer payment plan allows a student on a graduate assistantship to defer payment for up to 50% of the summer term's tuition and mandatory fee charges or the account balance, whichever is less. The deferrable balance is calculated after all actual and expected financial aid is applied to the student account. Financial aid is defined as any anticipated or disbursed aid, third party contract payments, and tuition and fee waivers. A student enrolling in the plan will be required to make a down payment at the time of enrollment if their account balance after aid is greater than 50% of the tuition and mandatory fee charges for the term.

### **Q: Who is eligible for a Graduate Assistantship Payment Plan?**

Graduate students on an assistantship with balances remaining after all financial aid payments have been applied to their account are eligible. Graduate students who are not on an assistantship should sign up for the University of Georgia Tuition Payment Plan instead.

### **Q: How do I enroll?**

Sign up is done through the Bill Payment Suite once logged in to your Student Account.

Before enrolling in a payment plan, you need to complete your registration and ensure that all charges and your graduate assistantship waiver have been posted to your student account. When you are ready to enroll in a University of Georgia Graduate Assistantship Payment Plan, please follow the step by step instructions.

### **Q: When can I enroll?**

Enrollment for the Spring 2021 Graduate Assistantship Payment Plan begins December 7<sup>th</sup> 2020.

**Please ensure all charges are on your account before enrolling.**

**Q: When are the installments due?**

For Spring 2021, the installments are due monthly at the beginning of the month. At the time of enrollment, students/parents are required to set up deduction of installment payments directly from a bank account via ACH or scheduled payments by a major credit card\*. **Payments are then automatically drafted from your bank account or charged your credit card\***. A schedule of the installments dates are provided when you enroll.

Please ensure your bank or credit card information for scheduled payments is up to date to avoid issues with processing your payment.

**Q: Am I required to wait until my installment is due to pay it?**

You can make payment of any amount towards your next installment at any time. Manual payments (those not automatically drafted) will go towards the first, unpaid installment and will not evenly apply to all remaining installment balances. Please ensure payments are made in full **at least 48 hours prior to the due date** to avoid the possibility of a prescheduled draft occurring.

**Q: How do I pay my installment payments?**

When you enroll in the payment plan, you agree to have the installments automatically drafted via ACH or credit card.\* If you wish to make a payment before the installment date, you can manually make a payment on your student account. Please ensure payments are made in full **at least 48 hours prior to the due date** to avoid the possibility of a prescheduled draft occurring.

**Q: Can my installment amounts change after I have signed up for the plan?**

Yes. The amounts of your installments may increase or decrease due to recalculation of your tuition and fees or a parking permit. Additionally if a waiver adjusts on your account, a payment is made on your account, or financial aid award is adjusted, the installment amounts recalculate accordingly. This recalculation is done at least daily. You will receive an e-mail notifying you that your installment amounts have changed.

**Q: What happens if I don't make the installment payments as agreed or my payment is returned by the bank?**

If the installment payments are not made as agreed upon for any reason, you will be withdrawn from school for the term. This withdrawal will be reflected on your transcript and the University of Georgia refund policy will apply based on the date payment was due. You may also be restricted from enrolling in the payment plan in future terms.

**Q: Why can't I enroll in a plan?**

If your student account balance is fully covered by financial aid, you will not be eligible to enroll in a University of Georgia Graduate Assistantship Payment Plan. Also, if you have a prior term balance, you need to pay it before you can sign up for a Plan.

**Q: I paid off an installment and now I see an amount due for it. Why?**

An installment reopens if you have new charges on your account and the due date for the installment payment has not passed.

**Q: Why do I see the message "you do not have enough eligible charges" when I try to enroll?**

This message typically indicates you do not have enough charges to qualify for the plan or your balance does not exceed \$100.

**Q: What happens if my financial aid pays after I have enrolled in a payment plan?**

Any financial aid that pays on a student's account after they have enrolled in the payment plan will automatically be applied to the remaining installment plan balances. Financial aid will divide equally between the remaining installments. By enrolling in the plan, you agree to have your financial aid applied to these installment balances.

**Q: I am on a payment plan and also have a monthly Housing charge or other charges not included in the plan. How do I direct these payments so they don't pay down my installments but instead pay what is due?**

To pay any charges outside of a payment plan, use the "Make a Payment" button (from your Student Account) and select the specific charge you want to pay. This will ensure the payment pays the charge that is due and not the next installment.

**Q: What if I need to use Flywire to pay off an installment?**

Any Flywire payments will need to be scheduled to take effect **48 hours** prior to the installment date.

NOTE: \* Credit card payments will be assessed a convenience fee of 2.85% (minimum \$3) per transaction by the vendor for this service.