Understanding Your Finances

For Graduate Assistants & Partial Tuition Waiver Recipients Only

The following information is intended to provide you with an estimate of approximately how much money to budget for. This information is based-upon the current academic year and is subject to change for the next academic year. We recommend that you budget for more money than is listed below to allow yourself a “cushion” in the event of added and/or unexpected expenses.

Please understand that the figures below do not include other expenses such-as late registration fees, late payment fees, books, course materials, housing, health insurance, other personal living expenses, etc.

The fees are all set by the University, and not the Graduate Music Office. Fees and tuition remain the same for one full academic year (Fall, Spring, Summer cycle) and are always subject to change the following academic year. Fees are typically due during the second week of classes – there is no “deposit” prior to the term.

Preview the attached Waiver and Fee Chart from The Graduate School when reading the information below:

If a student is coded as “out of state”, they are charged the out of state University fees. If a student is coded as “in state”, they are charged the in state University fees. Multiply your per-credit-hour fees ($105.87 per credit hour for OOS; $75.81 per credit hour for in state) by the number of credit hours you are taking.

**Graduate Assistants**

If you are a graduate assistant you have to enroll in at least 9 grad-level credit hours to receive your waiver. Using the fees model above: for OOS, 105.87 x 9= $952.83. for in state 75.81 x 9= $682.29. Then, add the per semester $20 FSU Student Facilities Use Fee to that total, add the $5 FSU Card fee, then add the $350 Music Equipment fee to that total. So, if you were attending Florida State University as an out of state student for the current academic year, and had enrolled for 9 grad-level credit hours, you would have paid $1,327.83 in the Fall of 2015, and $1,327.83 in the Spring of 2016. That $1,327.83 figure would have been your fee total that you would have been responsible for paying….either by-way of your own funding or via federal financial aid for those who qualify by completing the FAFSA. If you are an in-state graduate assistant, the total per semester would be $1,057.29. Just to re-confirm, these fee totals may change for the next academic year, but hopefully they will give you an estimation of what you would expect to pay in fees as a graduate assistant.

For your information, U.S. domestic students who are appointed as graduate assistants in the College of Music are eligible to apply-for the possibility of becoming Florida residents after twelve months, once certain criteria are met. **Graduate Assistants who are residents of the United States should note that out-of-state tuition waivers are paid by the College ONLY during the first year of an assistantship; after that the College will provide only an in-state waiver.** Thus, applying for Florida residency is financially advantageous. Please note that international students will receive the out-of-state waiver for the duration of the graduate assistantship. For additional information on obtaining Florida residency please visit the College of Music website: [http://www.music.fsu.edu/Current-Students/Graduate/Florida-Residency-Information](http://www.music.fsu.edu/Current-Students/Graduate/Florida-Residency-Information) and the FSU Registrar’s Office website: [http://admissions.fsu.edu/residency/policy/reclassification.cfm](http://admissions.fsu.edu/residency/policy/reclassification.cfm)

**Partial Tuition Waiver Recipients**

If you are a partial tuition waiver recipient using the OOS model above, $105.87 x 8= $846.96. Then you add the per semester $20 FSU Student Facilities Use Fee to that total, add the $5 FSU Card fee, then add the $350 Music Equipment fee to that total. This would bring you to $1,221.96 for OOS. Remember, as a condition of
accepting the partial tuition waiver, you must fund one full graduate-level credit hour yourself. The current out-of-state per credit hour rate for graduate students is $1,110.72 (refer to the Student Business Services web-site). When you add $1,221.96 to $1,110.72 you get: $2,332.68. So, if you were attending Florida State University as an out of state student for the current academic year, and had enrolled for the mandatory 9 grad-level credit hours as a partial tuition waiver recipient, you would have paid $2,332.68 in the Fall of 2015, and $2,332.68 in the Spring of 2016. That $2,332.68 figure would have been your fee total that you would have been responsible for paying each semester....either by-way of your own funding or via federal financial aid for those who qualify by completing the FAFSA. If you are an in-state student taking 9 grad-level credit hours, the total would be a bit cheaper overall. Just to re-confirm, this fee total may change for the next academic year, but this will give you an estimation of what you would expect to pay per semester as a partial tuition waiver recipient.