Dear Colleagues,

On March 27, 2019, the UCLA Graduate Council approved a change in the way some fellowship stipends will be issued. Effective July 1, 2019, Graduate Division-related fellowship stipends will disburse monthly rather than quarterly. This change will apply to Graduate Division Special Fellowships, including the Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship, Graduate Opportunity Fellowship (GOF also known as GOFP), Graduate Research Mentorship (GRM), Graduate Summer Research Mentorship (GSRM), Dissertation Year Fellowship (DYF) and some privately endowed fellowships. Unrestricted (block grant) stipend funding will also transition to a monthly model, but nominating departments may continue to award stipend funding on a quarterly basis if a department feels it would be in the best interest of an awardee.

The change will benefit students in several ways. First, it will better align the timing of fellowship payments with other types of support that students receive through their departments and programs, such as ASE/GSR pay, extramural fellowships, training grants, etc. Second, the change will help students with their budgeting by providing a more consistent and predictable funding stream (many students currently experience funding gaps over several months). Lastly, in the event a student is unable to complete an academic term due to a leave or withdrawal, the student would only have to repay the monthly amounts received, rather than the full quarterly amount.

For more information, please contact Ana Lebon, Assistant Dean of Fellowships and Financial Services in the Graduate Division, at alebon@grad.ucla.edu or x6-4309.

Sincerely,

Willeke Z. Wendrich
Chair, Graduate Council

Robin L. Garrell
Vice Provost for Graduate Education
Dean, Graduate Division