

From: Dean of Graduate Education Susan L. Ettner and Graduate Council Chair Leah Lievrouw
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2022 1:01 PM
Subject: Deferred Matriculation Option for Fall 2022 Graduate Students



Graduate Education Graduate Council

What you need to know:

- Departments and programs may allow graduate students who have accepted offers of admission to defer their matriculation for one quarter (Winter 2023) up to a maximum of one year (Fall 2023)
- If an admitted student defers, departments/programs are expected to provide the same or a higher level of financial support as in the original offer package

Dear Deans, Department Chairs, Directors, Vice Chairs and Student Affairs Officers:

To give students and departments as much flexibility as possible in the uncertain and fluctuating circumstances surrounding COVID-19, the Graduate Council has voted to enable departments and graduate programs to allow students who have accepted offers of admission to defer their matriculation for one quarter (Winter 2023) up to a maximum of one year (Fall 2023).

Departments may choose to offer this option to **all** applicants who have accepted offers of admission (SIRd), to admitted applicants who have not yet SIRd but have expressed interest in delaying matriculation, or to subsets of such applicants on a case-by-case basis, depending on the circumstances. If the latter, the department should set clear criteria that are consistent with Prop. 209 and federal regulations. For example, discrimination based on national origin is prohibited.

If an admitted student defers, the department/program is expected to provide the same or a higher level of financial support as in the original offer package. The department will need to state this commitment when communicating with the student about a potential deferral. In deciding to allow students to defer matriculation, a department/program should recognize that this may impact the number of new applicants they are able to admit in 2023.

In terms of resources, the usual criteria for carrying forward block grant funds will apply, but exceptions to carry forward a higher percentage will be considered. For students who have been offered Cota-Robles or Graduate Opportunity Fellowships, the Graduate Division will uphold those commitments.

The Graduate Division's Diversity, Inclusion and Admissions team will follow up with departments to provide instructions for submitting deferral requests for admitted students. If you have questions regarding the deferral process, you can contact Graduate Division Assistant Dean Tiara Wair (twair@grad.ucla.edu).

Best regards,

Susan L. Ettner

Dean of Graduate Education

Leah Lievrouw

Chair, Graduate Council

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