DATE: May 2, 2011

TO: Deans, Department Chairs, and Graduate Directors

THROUGH: Ann G. Wylie, Senior Vice President and Provost

FROM: Charles Caramello, Associate Provost and Dean

SUBJECT: Stipend Levels for Graduate Assistants and Fellows for FY 2012

Due to budgetary constraints, there will be no mandated increase in Graduate Assistantship or Fellowship stipends for FY 2012. The minimum stipend levels for Graduate Assistantships and Fellowships, whether on state or research accounts, are given below, together with additional guidelines. Please ensure that your stipend levels and practices are in compliance.

**Graduate Assistantship Stipends**

A. All graduate assistants fall into one of three steps. Step I is for first-year graduate assistants only; Step II is for second-year assistants, as well as those students, new or continuing, holding a master’s degree; and Step III is for doctoral students officially advanced to candidacy. Students should be placed in the appropriate step.

B. The Graduate School sets a minimum stipend level for Step I. Each unit is to ensure that its Step I stipend level is equal to or higher than the minimum specified below.

C. Stipend levels have no caps at any step, and should differ between steps.

D. All graduate assistants at a particular step, in a particular unit, should receive the same stipend amount regardless of their payment history.

E. *FYI: In FY 2010, the median stipend for all graduate assistants on 9, 9.5, and 12 month appointments was $18,541; the mean stipend was $19,679.*

**Minimum Stipends for Step I Graduate Assistantships are as follows:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9-month Assistantship</th>
<th>9.5-month Assistantship</th>
<th>12-month Assistantship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full</td>
<td>Half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step I</td>
<td>$13,994</td>
<td>$6,997.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Teaching Assistants must be offered 9.5- or 12-month assistantships due to responsibilities after the last day of classes; TAs may not be offered 9-month assistantships.
Graduate Fellowship Stipends: 9- and 12-Month

A. The Graduate School sets *minimum* stipend levels, specified below, for fellowships to qualify for tuition remission. For details, see: www.gradschool.umd.edu/prospective_students/general_fellowship.html.

B. Fellowship stipend levels have no caps.
C. Guidelines for University and Dean’s Fellowship increments apply.
D. No work requirements can be attached to graduate fellowships.

Minimum Stipends for Graduate Fellowships are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9-month Fellowships</th>
<th>12-month Fellowships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>Half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International Students on Assistantships or Fellowships

International students offered 9- or 9.5-month assistantships or fellowships must show proof of private financial resources for the remainder of the year or must be provided additional support for that period. In either case, the total 12-month amount must equal or exceed the amount required by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to obtain an immigration visa. For further information, contact International Education Services (IES) at x4-7740.

For further information regarding stipend guidelines, or for other assistance, contact Patricia Woodwell, Director, Administrative Services (x5-0814), or Barbara Ferguson, Fellowship Coordinator (x5-0371).

cc: Robert Platky  
    Linda Clement  
    Michele Eastman  
    Thomas Vogler  
    William McLean  
    Barbara Varsa