Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs

Doctoral Student Tuition Policy
Allocation as an Allowed Cost on Grants and Contracts
College of Medicine
Effective Academic Year 2007-08
Revised: April 23, 2008

Rationale:
A goal shared by the faculty and students of the College of Medicine is to develop and enhance the various graduate programs that exist within the College. However, to achieve this goal, it is becoming increasing important that the College explore various options to sustain and enhance training activities in a budgetary-constrained environment.

During the previous years, tuition for graduate students who were engaged in extramurally funded research has not been charged to the grants and a significant level of College of Medicine resources that were made available to the doctoral program have been devoted to reimbursing the institution for tuition-waivers. This practice is not in compliance with Federal and Institutional regulations and does not meet the guidelines of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

In order to provide an increased level of funding that will be available to support first year graduate students and to aid in enhancing future stipend levels to attract well-qualified students and also to provide “bridge-funding” for students whose mentor(s) have experience a lapse of funding, the College is proposing to implement a cost-recovery program that will require a portion of the tuition costs associated with extramurally-funded research that is conducted by graduate students to be recovered from the sponsoring grant.

The tuition recovered under this policy would be utilized for a variety of activities that include developing emerging areas of new research focus, student recruitment, career advising, improving teaching opportunities, offering responsible conduct of research and survival courses, developing a culture of mentoring, increasing diversity, offering graduate-student-specific health services, supporting outcomes research and analysis, and providing vastly improved core and IT resources.

Recommendation:
Extramurally-funded research projects obtained by core faculty and awarded to the University that utilize graduate student’s services would be required to reimburse the College of Medicine for a portion of the tuition that is associated with the student’s training. The College has adopted a policy, which indicates that federal awards will provide 100 percent of education costs up to $3,000/trainee/year and 60 percent of costs above the $3,000 base amount. Alternatively, if this amount is higher, tuition will be charged to the grants up to the extent indicated by the program/agency. The institution would provide the balance of the student-associated tuition costs.
All existing grants that have the provision to support graduate student tuition will be subject to this policy as of AY 07-08. Additionally, ALL new grant proposals submitted on or after July 01, 2007 are required to include these tuition costs up to the extent indicated by the program/agency. Grants that specifically indicate that tuition is not an allowed cost will not be affected by this policy.