## **TUITION BENEFIT PROGRAM**

#### **Quick Reference Guide**

The Tuition Benefit Program (TBP) pays **general graduate** tuition and **mandatory** fees for eligible graduate students compensated through the University of Utah. Differential tuition and all non-mandatory fees are not covered.

## TO QUALIFY, STUDENTS MUST:

\* Be coded in a qualified job:

TA - 9416, Exempt

RA – 9314, Exempt (5000 fund only)

GA – 9330, Exempt (9331 not allowed)

GF - fellowship with monthly stipend

- \* Be matriculated in a graduate program
- \* Be registered for 9-16 credit hours

TBP covers 9-12 graduate level credit hours for Fall and Spring for TAs, GAs and GFs, and 9-11 for RAs.

- \* Be included on the home department TBP web list by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of classes.
- \* Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 (Law, 2.0)
- \* Receive Minimum Support from the U:

2019-20 Minimum Support Levels \$7,950/ semester: 100% tuition benefit \$5,962/ semester: 75% tuition benefit \$3,975/ semester: 50% tuition benefit

2018-19 Minimum Support Levels \$7,750/ semester: 100% tuition benefit \$5,813/ semester: 75% tuition benefit \$3,875/ semester: 50% tuition benefit

20 hrs/ week (0.50 FTE) = 100% TB 15 hrs/ week (0.375 FTE) = 75% TB 10 hrs /week (0.25 FTE) = 50% TB

\*International students who are non-native speakers of North American English must have clearance from the ITA Program (http://www.utah.edu/ita) in order to receive tuition benefit for a TA (Job Code 9416) assignment. Contact Diane Cotsonas diane.cotsonas@utah.edu.

\*\*Departments hiring GA's outside of their department must get permission from the Graduate School to allow those students to utilize tuition benefit.

**Students lose their TBP support** and are charged for their tuition when they a) drop below 9 credit hours (even briefly) after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the semester, b) receive less than the minimal financial support, or c) otherwise fail to meet requirements.

# Qualifying Payroll/Stipend Dates for Contributing to Minimum Support Levels

Payroll and/or stipend payments must occur within the following date ranges in order to count toward the minimum support level:

Fall Semester: August 16 to December 31

Spring semester: January 1 to May 15

Summer semester: May 16 to August 15

### Limits on TBP

Master's students = 4 semesters (Fall & Spring)

Doctoral student entering with a bachelor's degree = 10 semesters

Doctoral student entering with a master's degree from the U = 6 semesters

Doctoral student entering with a master's degree from elsewhere = 8 semesters

- \*Students who are RAs during Fall or Spring semester can receive Tuition Benefit for 3 credits during Summer semester, as long as they continue to be supported as RAs through the summer. Summer is not counted toward the TBP Limit.
- \*\*An additional 2 semesters of TBP support are available for some TAs. See website for details.

### **Subsidized Graduate Student Health Insurance**

Available to TAs and RAs who are receiving a full 100% tuition benefit. Participants may hold both an RA and TA position (with the total adding up to 100% tuition benefit) to qualify. The insurance is the same Student Health Insurance policy offered to all U of U students, but includes dental/vision coverage and the premium is subsidized. Coverage for dependents is not subsidized.

Qualifying students are billed for 20% of the premium through Income Accounting. The Graduate School pays the remaining 80% at the start of the semester. Throughout the semester, The Graduate School is reimbursed via bi-monthly payroll deductions from the TA benefit pool or RA benefit allotment. For this reason, RAs must be paid from a grant (5000 fund) that has a benefit allotment for each student researcher.