

State GA Funding Policy

Effective for New State Funded GAs Beginning Fall 2014

Please find below the details of the policy regarding maximum time limits for state funded GAs, and its enforcement. Please advise your graduate students accordingly.

1. The new maximum time limit policy on Grad College funded State GAs will begin tracking new, state funded GAs in AY 2014-15.
2. The new maximum time limits for Grad College funded State GAs are as follows:
 - Masters level state GAs may hold their position for 2 years with the possibility of a 1 semester extension if degree completion is pending.
 - Post-Bachelors Doctoral level state GAs may hold their position for 2 years, and then be renewed for an additional 3 years by their department for a total of 5 years of funding. Up to a 1 year extension may be possible for pending degree completion.
 - Post-Masters Doctoral level state GAs may hold their position for 4 years, with a possibility of up to a 1 year extension for pending degree completion.
 - MFA students may be supported on a State GA for 3 years with the possibility of a 1 year extension for pending degree completion.
3. Students who have been appointed as state funded GAs prior to fall 2014 will not be tracked by the Graduate College, and the policy will not be enforced by the GC. Academic units will need to set appropriate policies internally regarding currently/previously funded state GAs; the policy must be clear, fair, and consistent for all students in the unit.
4. This new policy does not impact externally funded GAs. If a GC funded state GA receives grant funding for a year and then returns to GC state GA funding, their year off of state funding will not count toward their maximum time limit.
5. State funded GAs are operationalized as those who are appointed by an academic unit using state funds allocated by the Graduate College to the Dean of the Academic College, and then assigned to the department/school for distribution. Grants, contracts, and the use of departmental, college, or unit funds to appoint GAs are beyond the "state funded GA" category (called externally funded GAs) and therefore exempt from this time limit policy.
6. Despite having all "external" GAs exempt from this policy, departments are encouraged to mentor all their graduate students to timely degree completion and not to elongate graduate programs due to the availability of other GA funds.