Information for New CSE Financial Aid Recipients

We look forward to seeing you in September! The information below will answer questions regarding financial aid payments and reiterate what is expected of a CSE financial aid recipient.

**Pay Dates:**
Fellowship recipients receive their stipend payment on the last Monday of the month. (NOTE: Rackham Merit Fellows (RMF/REA) recipients are the exception to this rule and will receive details about their stipend payment directly from the Rackham Graduate School.)

GSRA (Graduate Student Research Assistant) and GSI (Graduate Student Instructor) positions receive employment paychecks on the last working day of the month.

**Note that your first payment will not be until the end of September. Plan on covering your expenses through the month.**

**Tuition and registration fees:**
Payment of tuition and fees is applied directly to your U-M account. On occasion, the September billing statement is sent prior to the posting of the tuition/fee payment. If that occurs, you may ignore the tuition/fees portion of that bill. All other charges, however, are your responsibility. Your October statement should reflect the payment of your tuition and fees. If it does not, please contact the CSE Financial Aid Coordinator.

**Direct Deposit:**
Students should complete a direct deposit form in Wolverine Access under Student Financials. Otherwise, you’ll need to complete and submit the following form: [http://www.finance.umich.edu/finops/payroll/forms/directdepositauthorizationform](http://www.finance.umich.edu/finops/payroll/forms/directdepositauthorizationform)

It is very important that you update Wolverine Access with your local Ann Arbor address, or your checks will be sent to your permanent address.

**Taxes:**
Fellowship stipends are considered reportable income. However, taxes are not withheld for US citizens. You will need to report these monies as income when filing your taxes in April. Please take this into account and adjust your budget and spending accordingly. You also have the option of filing a quarterly tax payment. See the Internal Revenue Services website for more information on this: [http://www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

A useful source of information for international students/taxes: [http://internationalcenter.umich.edu/taxes/](http://internationalcenter.umich.edu/taxes/)

Fellowship income for non-citizens may fall under a tax treaty. Please check the above website to see if you are exempt. If you qualify as exempt, you must complete a form annually to avoid taxes being taken from your check. Tuition or fees payments are not taxable income. Books qualify as a tax deduction; save your receipts!

**Health Insurance:**
Fellowship recipients must sign up for GradCare with the CSE Financial Aid Coordinator. More information can be found here: [https://hr.umich.edu/benefits-wellness/health/benefits-enrollment-eligibility/benefits-eligibility](https://hr.umich.edu/benefits-wellness/health/benefits-enrollment-eligibility/benefits-eligibility)

Students who will be a GSI or GSRA with a 25% or greater appointment are considered U-M employees for benefit purposes and will receive information regarding health insurance from Karen Liska or a lab administrator.

**Health Insurance Cont.:**

All GradCare enrollment must be completed within 30 days of the term begin date for fellowship students and within 30 days of the date of hire for GSRAs and GSiS.

Upon arrival, international students will be required to enroll in health insurance through the International Center. You will need to make sure that the coverage is cancelled when coverage by your funding from CSE begins. You are responsible for any costs assessed to the period prior to September 1st.
Expectations:
The CSE Department expects all students receiving funding to:
• Enroll in a course schedule approved by an academic advisor and take enough credit hours to maintain full-time status
• Maintain a 3.5 GPA
• Find a research advisor and begin research in the first year
• Make satisfactory progress
• Achieve academic milestones within program deadlines

Students whose native language is not English must pass the Oral English Language Test (OET) by the end of their first term to be eligible for future aid (for GSIs the exam would need to be passed before their first term). If you need to take the OET, registration deadlines will be announced via an email from Karen Liska. The registration form can be found here: https://docs.google.com/a/umich.edu/forms/d/14Vcbyg1CK67l7a-r71pTR74XVrOtvrwaWSG_hzkOLjg/viewform

Summer 2018 funding:
As you become acclimated and learn more about professors and research projects, you will want to begin planning for your 2018 summer support. **To receive funding in your first Spring-Summer term, financial aid and benefit recipients are required to remain in Ann Arbor and work on research with a faculty member.** It is your responsibility to find a research advisor.

In March, the graduate programs office will contact you regarding locating an advisor and finalizing your summer research plans. Your CSE research advisor will pay half of your summer funding as a research assistant. If you entered with GSRA funding for the first year, you will have full GSRA funding through the first Spring-Summer term.

Resources:
You are encouraged to take advantage of all the resources the university offers. A good place to start is here: http://ink.engin.umich.edu/home

GSIs and GSRAs will receive additional information from Karen Liska or a CSE lab administrator.

GSIs:
All incoming GSIs will be required to attend CoE and EECS training/orientation sessions that will take place at the beginning of September. Karen Liska will contact you beforehand with exact times/locations, agenda, and registration links. Additionally, all first time GSIs need to attend an advanced practice teaching session during the fall term (dates to be determined). https://crlte.engin.umich.edu/orientation-programs-workshops/egsito/
http://crlte.engin.umich.edu/aptregistration/

We hope this information is helpful as you begin your time at the University of Michigan. If you have further questions pertaining to financial aid or fellowships, please contact the CSE Financial Aid Coordinator at csegradstaff@umich.edu. If you have further questions pertaining to GSIs or GSRAs, please contact Karen Liska at liska@umich.edu.