Graduate Assistantships and Waivers (DRAFT – 1/14/14)

1. A full waiver of University tuition is provided to any student who is hired as a graduate assistant (including research, teaching, service, and residence hall assistants). Graduate assistantships always include this waiver. A student may not be hired as a graduate assistant without the waiver being applied to his or her account through Financial Aid. Graduate students who are hired as student (hourly) workers do not receive a tuition waiver.

2. Unless the restrictions described below apply, full or partial waivers of University tuition also may be granted to selected graduate or professional students by their programs (merit waivers), by the Office of International Students and Scholars (special program merit waivers), or by the Office of Graduate Education and Life (special program merit waivers or employee waivers).

3. Graduate or professional programs that restrict students’ use of University tuition waivers must 1) convey this information to potential applicants to the program so that applicants are aware that they may not be allowed to seek graduate assistantships, merit waivers, or employee waivers to defray the costs of their program, and 2) regularly inform students admitted to the program of restrictions on their ability to seek and obtain graduate assistantships, merit waivers, or employee waivers.

4. If only some students in a program are to be allowed to seek assistantships or waivers, the procedures for obtaining program permission must be clearly conveyed to students. If a student in one of the programs listed below is given permission to apply for an assistantship or waiver from a unit other than their own program, this permission must be conveyed in writing to the hiring unit (for an assistantship) or the waiver granting unit (for merit and employee waivers).

5. Hiring units and waiver granting units (other than a student’s own program) must receive written permission from a student’s program before considering a student for a graduate assistantship or waiver if the student is in one of the programs listed below. Because other programs may at times place restrictions on students’ ability to obtain assistantships or waivers, it is good practice for hiring or waiver granting units to ask students from other programs to confirm that their program will allow them to have their University tuition waived prior to accepting an application from the student.

6. Graduate and professional programs that restrict students’ use of University tuition waivers:
   - Health Sciences programs (including Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health).
   - Extended Learning programs and courses.

Programs that restrict students from obtaining graduate assistantships:
   - Teacher Education programs (students in their final year)