Getting Started

Teaching Assistant (TA)
Research Assistant (RA)
Fellowships

Graduate Office

EB2 3014
my.ece.ncsu.edu/grad

Be sure to check myECE for any forms needed
ecegradoffice@ncsu.edu

Use your NC State email account

Director of Graduate Programs

Paul Franzon, Cirrus Logic Distinguished Professor
paulf@ncsu.edu

Assistant Director of Graduate Programs

Ginger Yu, Teaching Associate Professor
dgyu@ncsu.edu

Graduate Career Services

Sara Concini, Director of Career Services
my.ece.ncsu.edu/careers
sara_concini@ncsu.edu
The Graduate Student Support Plan is a competitive support package used to attract top students to NC State University. Graduate students that meet the requirements below are eligible to receive health insurance (for entire degree) and standard tuition support (for a limited number of semesters).

Where does the funding come from?
- In state tuition – 100% covered by RA/TA
- Out of State tuition – 25% covered by RA/TA
  75% covered by Provost

Maintain Eligibility
- Enrolled Full Time in an on campus PhD./M.S. Program (72 credit hours for Ph.D.; 30 credit hours for M.S.) by Census Date and throughout the semester.
- Have a qualifying appointment (RA, TA, Fellowship, Extension Assistant) with an annualized income of at least $8,000
- Be within the allowed semesters
  - MS = 4 semesters
  - PhD w/Previous MS = 8 semesters
  - PhD = 10 semesters
- Appointment begins before Census Day and extends up to 30 days beyond first day of class or tuition award will be prorated to only cover the period employed.

Can I get an extension?
You can apply for 1 semester extension if you have unused benefits.

If you do not meet eligibility requirements, and your plan of work had been approved, your Principal Investigator (PI) or yourself will be responsible for covering tuition, fees & health insurance

Tuition and Fees not covered by GSSP
- RA: PI’s generally pay all tuition and fees from their research account. Check with your PI.
- TA: ECE department will cover tuition and inflate salary to cover fees.
- Fellow: Typically covers both tuition and some—but not all—fees depending on source of funding. Check with your PI.

All tuition not covered by GSSP must be paid by Census Date or a late fee will be added and your class schedule will be canceled.
Contact the Graduate Office for a Do Not Cancel if needed to avoid this issue, but we cannot waive late fees.

Maintain GPA = 3.0 or higher
What happens if you drop below a 3.0?
- Academic warning - can still be RA/TA with Graduate School approval;
- Academic probation/termination - can no longer be an RA/TA;
- Must have GPA of 3.0 or higher to graduate;
- Cannot drop a course after the drop date deadline—the course will count towards your GPA.

If you are facing difficulties please talk to your adviser and consider setting up an appointment with the DGP.
Health Insurance
Coverage begins the start of the semester and runs through the start of the following semester.
- Fall - Aug 1 - Dec 31
- Spring Jan 1 - July 31
For more information on family coverage, or insurance cards, contact BCBS Student Blue at 888-351-8283

Conference Travel
Your PI is the primary source of funding. The College of Engineering has limited funds available to assist with travel which you must apply for. Students may receive a one time only $1000 award to help cover the cost of travel. To apply, email DGP with the information on the right.

Helpful Tips
- Consider enrolling in 12 credit hours a semester—this will allow you to drop one course during the semester should you need to and still remain full time.
- Summer TA appointments are very rare, do not count on them. Talk with your adviser about options and consider finding an internship.

Suggested Ph.D. Timeline

Enter Program

Qualifying Review Exam
Adviser must notify the ECE Graduate Office of Qualifying Review Exam results.

Plan Of Work
Submit for approval by your 4th semester or once you have completed 18 credit hours. If you need to make changes after it has been submitted contact the ECE Graduate Office.

Preliminary Exam
Submit Request to Schedule Preliminary Exam form found on the Graduate School website to the ECE Graduate Office at least 10 business days before exam.

Final Oral Exam
You must wait at least 4 months after passing your Prelim exam to hold your final Oral Exam. Submit Request to Final Oral Exam form found on the Graduate School website to the ECE Graduate Office at least 10 business days before.

Apply to Graduate!