PROV-012

Financial Aid to Non-Degree-Seeking Students

Effective Date Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Status Final

Last Revised Wednesday, July 16, 2025

Policy Type Executive Vice President & Provost

Contact Office Executive Vice President and Provost (Office of the)

Oversight Executive
Executive Vice President and Provost

Applies To Academic Division.

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Policy Statement

Reason for Policy

Defines criteria under which non-degree-seeking students may qualify to receive financial aid (including fellowships, scholarships, assistantships, or loans) through the University.

Definition of Terms

Certificate–Seeking Student

Description A student who is enrolled in a credit or non-credit certificate program at the University.

Degree–Seeking Student

Description

A student enrolled in any undergraduate or graduate degree-granting program at the University. Graduate degree-seeking students include those students enrolled in one of the University's two professional schools (Law, Medicine).

Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs)

Description Graduate students who have instructional assignments in classrooms or laboratories.

Non–Degree–Seeking Student

Description

A student who has received permission to enroll and is registered for coursework at the University but is not enrolled in one of the University's degree-granting programs.

Student(s)

Description

An individual who either has been admitted to a degree or certificate program at the University or has received permission to enroll and is registered for coursework (including credit or non-credit) at the University during any given academic session (including fall or spring semesters, Summer Session, or January Term).

Visiting Student

Description A non-degree-seeking student who is enrolled in a degree-granting program at another institution.

Policy Statement

Non-degree-seeking students at the University of Virginia may qualify for financial aid (including fellowships, scholarships, assistantships, or loans) if they have been accepted into a University program that seeks to advance the University's mission (see the University's Statement of Purpose and Goals). Such programs may include recruiting programs or programs designed to strengthen the University's research and educational activities. Program participants must receive permission to enroll from the respective school, register for courses (including either research-only courses or non-credit courses) and pay the required applicable fees to be recognized as students.

Students enrolled in non-credit certificate programs are not eligible for financial aid.

The type of aid available to non-degree-seeking students will vary by program and school. Non-degree-seeking students are not eligible for Commonwealth Awards or other financial aid appropriated from state general funds.

Non-degree-seeking students (including visiting undergraduate students) are not eligible for aid through the University's ***Access UVA*** program.

In certain restricted circumstances, visiting graduate students who are enrolled in a degree-granting program at another university may be allowed to serve as Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) at the University of Virginia. Such exceptions, whether on an ongoing or one-time basis, require the approval of the dean or his/her designee.

Related Information

PROV-001: Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs)
Student Financial Services

Major Category Executive Vice President & Provost Policies

Next Scheduled Review Sunday, May 12, 2013

Revision History

Minor update to Policy Statement 7/16/25.

Approved By Executive Vice President and Provost

Approved Date Wednesday, May 12, 2010