

## **Various Registration Requirements For Graduate Students Deciding on a Part-Time Registration**

- Students that exceed the 174/140 semester graduate credit limit, are ineligible for university general fund GA stipends and GAS/GIA scholarships. [UC's Graduate Handbook](#) , p. 29
- 10 graduate credit hours are considered full time, 5 graduate credit hours are considered half time by UC.
- Students must register for at least 1 graduate credit each semester to use university resources (space, laboratories, library, health insurance, etc.). If a student has been enrolled during the prior semester(s) and has not graduated, summer enrollment is not required for these privileges.
- To maintain graduate status at the University of Cincinnati, students must register at UC for at least one graduate credit that contributes to degree requirements (as determined by the graduate program) in an academic year. If the student is registered for at least one graduate credit, he or she will maintain graduate student status throughout the entire academic year, fall through summer (see the University Graduate Handbook).
- Students registered for 6 or more hours are automatically enrolled and billed for health insurance. Students registered for 1-5 credit hours must apply for the health insurance, since they are not automatically enrolled. Students are eligible for student health insurance if they are matriculated in a graduate degree program and registered for at least 1 credit/semester that applies toward the degree.
- Graduate assistants who are otherwise eligible for the Graduate School Health Insurance Benefit (GSHI) are eligible for the \$525/semester benefit as long as they are registered for 1 graduate credit in fall and spring semesters. [GSHI - AY'2013-14](#)
- International graduate students must register full time until the coursework for their degree program is completed. They can register part time as they complete a dissertation or thesis or other non-coursework degree requirements. A Reduced Course Load (Academic Reasons) must be requested and approved by ISSO prior to enrolling for a part time course load.
- A student, when originally hired at UC, can file forms to request an exemption from paying into OPERS (Ohio's public employees' retirement system) because they are a registered student. An exemption from contributions to OPERS is active when registered half-time, 5 credits or more for a graduate student. In semesters when registration is less than half-time, OPERS contributions must be taken from the check. The employee contribution to OPERS is currently 10% of pay. GAs have OPERS contributions taken out of their pay in the summer, since they do not register in summer. A refund of the retirement account can be requested from OPERS upon leaving UC.
- The ability to obtain student loans or defer loan payments is often predicated on a part time or full time enrollment, so occasionally students may need GAS/GIA scholarship funds simply to maintain lender-defined enrollment requirements. Lenders differ with respect to what they will accept as evidence for full time study. Students should contact their lender to determine the requirements of their lender(s).
- For Doctoral Students: Prior to admission to doctoral candidacy, all doctoral students shall complete a residency requirement by enrolling in 10 graduate credit hours (12 if funded by an UDean-funded GA) per semester for four out of five consecutive semesters of study (including summer) or three consecutive summer semesters (see the University Graduate Handbook).
- Part-time graduate students must pay for access to the UC Campus Recreation Center. The fee is currently \$60/semester.
- Part-time graduate students must pay for the ITIE fee, as do full-time graduate students. The fee is \$18/credit or \$180/semester for full-time graduate students.