



Proposal to Include Medical Insurance in the Benefits Under Graduate Foreign Student Scholarship

RATIONALE:

As higher education reels from the effects of the coronavirus pandemic, graduate students face a unique set of challenges. In 2020, on the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic here in the Philippines, with the help of CHED, HEIs including the Visayas State University have adopted flexible learning modalities to ensure continued study and support for Foreign Students even if they are currently residing in their home country. In the recent decline of COVID-19 cases in the Philippines, CHED has allowed several HEIs including VSU to conduct limited face-to-face classes, especially for the graduate students. In view of this, our foreign students who are currently residing in Nepal, Indonesia, and Zimbabwe are already advised to come to campus. However, upon their entry in the Philippines, the Department of Foreign Affairs have strictly implemented in their guidelines that a foreign student upon entry in the Philippines must have a valid and subsisting health insurance coverage that is recognized in the Philippines. Currently, as stated in the guidelines for the Fellowship Program for Foreign Students, it does include the medical insurance in their privileges and as for the guidelines for the Graduate Teaching Assistantship for Foreign Students it only indicates that a maximum of 2,000 pesos per year is allocated for their medical insurance.

Therefore, it is hereby proposed provide a maximum of 5,000 pesos per semester or 10,000 pesos per year per foreign graduate student for their medical insurance. Provided that the foreign graduate student will pay the exceeding amount for their medical insurance if needed. Attached in this proposal is the copy of the guidelines for both the fellowship program and the graduate teaching assistantship for foreign students, and a sample quotation of the medical insurance.


ANABELLA B. TULIN
Dean, Graduate School

Noted:

BEATRIZ S. BELONIAS
Vice President for Instruction



REST OF THE WORLD	Premium	Charges	Total Amount Due
ONE WAY	\$12.25	2.26	\$14.51
1 - 4 Days	\$15.50	2.33	\$17.83
5 - 9 Days	\$25.00	3.65	\$28.65
10 - 14 Days	\$33.50	5.21	\$38.71
15 - 19 Days	\$38.75	5.82	\$44.57
20 - 29 Days	\$49.50	7.54	\$57.04
30 - 45 Days	\$61.75	9.30	\$71.05
46 - 60 Days	\$79.00	11.54	\$90.54
61 - 90 Days	\$104.25	15.70	\$119.95
91 - 120 Days	\$133.75	19.82	\$153.57
121 - 150 Days	\$173.00	25.28	\$198.28
151 - 180 Days	\$207.50	30.38	\$237.88

Quotation form Allied Bankers Insurance Corporation



EXCERPT FROM THE APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
99th VSU Board of Regents Meeting
19 November 2020
Visayas State University
(by Teleconference)

Proposal on Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) Grant to
Foreign Graduate Students for Master's and Doctoral Programs

The Board passed

BOR Resolution No. 124, s. 2020

A Resolution Approving the Proposal on Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA)
Grant to Foreign Graduate Students for Masters and Doctoral Programs, as presented.

**(Attached is the BOR Approved proposal)*

BOARD ACTION : APPROVED
Date : 19 November 2020

Certified True and Correct:

GUIRALDO C. FERNANDEZ, JR.
Board Secretary

Gc: OP
Graduate School
OVPAA
Univ. Registrar
ODF
Budget Office
Accounting Office

Vision: A globally competitive university for science, technology, and environmental conservation.
Mission: Development of a highly competitive human resource, cutting-edge scientific knowledge
and innovative technologies for sustainable communities and environment.

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FM-OBS-04
v1 06-10-2020
No. R20-225



Proposal on Graduate Teaching Assistantship Grant to Foreign Graduate Students for Master's and Doctoral Program

Rationale:

The Graduate School of Visayas State University has been giving financial assistance to local graduate students through graduate teaching/research assistantship program since 1991. This program is not only helping deserving graduate students to pursue graduate study but more importantly to further their professional academic development. It also serves as a meaningful learning experience and a way for the graduate student to work for an institution in his or her chosen field. It is expected that the student will contribute on a professional level to enhance the learning environment of undergraduate and other graduate students.

With the internationalization program of the university, graduate teaching assistantship grant is one strategy to attract foreign graduate students to pursue their graduate study in the university. The foreign graduate teaching assistant is responsible for working with various faculty members across different Graduate Programs. Foreign graduate teaching assistants will support departmental instructional activities which include teaching classes as teachers of record; grading course assignments, holding office hours, working with students in a laboratory class, leading discussion groups, mentoring, tutoring, proctoring examinations, teaching an occasional class and help prepare instructional materials under the tutelage of Graduate Faculty. The Graduate assistant could also be involved in administrative duties and responsibilities and other professional activities, ideally related to his or her field.

Eligibility and Requirements

- 1) To be eligible for the Assistantship, the student must come from Asia, USA, Australia, Africa and Europe and graduated with scholastic standing from a reputable institution/university.
- 2) He/she must first gain admission to the VSU Graduate School.
- 3) Transcript of Records with contact address (email address/Contact Number) of the University Registrar/College Dean
- 4) Recommendation Letter from former professor with Contact Number/e email address of the signatory of the letter
- 5) Certificate of good moral character from the university with contact no. and address of the signatory of the certificate.
- 6) Must submit a Motivation Letter in pursuing a graduate degree program
- 7) Must have a research plan on the field sought.
- 8) Must have a student visa and comply other requirements set by the International office of VSU;
- 9) Must have a competency and fluency of English for applicants from Non-English speaking countries; (Certificate of English Proficiency)

Terms and conditions of the Graduate Teaching Assistant:

1. Must take any of the Master of Science/Doctor of Philosophy programs in the university
2. Must enroll 9-12 units of graduate courses every semester
3. Must teach two laboratory courses (6 units) every semester
3. Must maintain a Grade Point Average of 1.50 for Master's and doctoral student every term;
4. Assistantships are awarded for each academic year but can be awarded for up to 3 years for Master of Science and 4 years for Doctor of Philosophy. Students must apply each academic year.



5. Must finish the graduate degree program within three years for the Master's Program and four years for the Doctoral Program in the event that she/he cannot finish within the specified period required, she/he has to pay back VSU the full amount spent for his/her fellowship grant within one month after the specified period to finish the degree;
6. Must not accept any kind of scholarship program or any other financial assistance grant and any kind of engagement while enjoying the assistantship. However, for thesis/dissertation support, the student can apply for additional funding from other sources.
7. Must conform with Philippine laws rules, regulations and laws of VSU and to such other regulations as may be duly prescribed in connection with the Assistantship Program;
8. Must submit at least one publishable/published article for Master's and published article in either Science and Humanities Journal, Annals of Tropical Research, Scopus Indexed Journal for Doctor of Philosophy upon graduation;
9. Must return to his/her country upon completion of his graduate degree program.
10. Must sign a Graduate Teaching Assistantship contract with VSU

Privileges of the Scholar:

1. Free School Fees (Tuition, Laboratory and Miscellaneous fees)
2. Stipend of P 25,000.00 per month
3. Book Allowance: P 2, 500 per semester
4. Medical Insurance: P 2,000.00 per year
5. Transportation: Round Trip Economy Plane ticket for graduate teaching assistants from Asia and subsidy of \$ 500 for graduate teaching assistants from Europe and USA.
6. Thesis/Dissertation support of \$ 1,000 for Master's and \$2,000 for Doctoral (First release - 50%; Second release - 25% and Third release - 25% upon submission of the approved thesis/dissertation manuscript).

Comparison of Financial Assistance Given to Graduate Teaching/Research Assistants

	UP	University of York	Hongkong
Stipend	Equivalent to Instructor 5- SG 16, Step 3 (P32,535.00) 3 rd tranche	£13.45/hour These rate of pay does not include payment for holiday entitlement accrued, which is automatically paid separately at the rate of 12.07% (£ 1 = PHP 63.99)	HK\$ 21,506.87 per Month Bonus HK\$ 15,000 (1 HKD = 6.3192 PHP)
Thesis/ Dissertation Support	Part of master thesis or PhD dissertation pursued in foreign university (COOPERATE sandwich program)	-	-
Book Allowance	P10,000.00 per year	-	-



VISAYAS
STATE UNIVERSITY

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EXCERPT FROM THE APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
97th VSU Board of Regents Meeting
28 APRIL 2020
(By Teleconference)

Proposed Guidelines on the Graduate
Fellowship Program for Foreign
Graduate Students

The Board passed

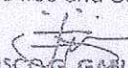
BOR Resolution No. 43, s. 2020

A Resolution Approving the Proposed Guidelines on the
Graduate Fellowship Program for Foreign Graduate Students.

(attached: BOR approved Guidelines)

BOARD ACTION : **APPROVED**
Date : 28 April 2020

Certified True and Correct:


FRANCISCO G. GABUNADA, JR.
University/Board Secretary

cc: OGP
OPI
OPI-ORI
Personal Records
Graduate School
Finance Office
Budget Office
Legal Office

Vision: A globally competitive university for science, technology, and environmental conservation.
Mission: Development of a highly competitive human resource, cutting-edge scientific knowledge and innovative technologies for sustainable communities and environment.

FM-03-03

Rev. 01

Q1-16-2019

Control Number: 220-133



Guidelines on Graduate Fellowship Program for Foreign Graduate Students
(BOR Resolution No. 43, s.2020), dated 28 April 2020)

Eligibility of the applicant:

1. Must come from South East Asian Nations and South Pacific (Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei, Fiji, and Samoa) and other countries with existing Memorandum of Understanding with VSU;
2. Must be admitted to the VSU Graduate School and start as a new graduate student upon application of the fellowship program. Transferees, continuing foreign graduate students are not eligible; and
3. Must not be older than 35 years of age at the time of admission to the VSU Graduate School

Terms and conditions of the Fellow:

1. Must have a student visa and comply other requirements set by the International office of VSU;
2. Must have a Certificate of English Proficiency for applicants from Non-English speaking countries;
3. Must take full academic load every semester based on the approved Plan of Course Work;
4. Must maintain a Grade Point Average of 1.75 every term;
5. Must finish the graduate degree program within two years for the Master's Program and three years for the Doctoral Program. In the event that she/he cannot finish within the specified period required, she/he has to pay back VSU the full amount spent for his/her fellowship grant within one month after the specified period to finish the degree;
6. Must not accept any kind of scholarship program or any other financial assistance grant and any kind of engagement while enjoying the fellowship;
7. Must conform with Philippine laws rules, regulations and laws of VSU and to such other regulations as may be duly prescribed in connection with the Scholarship Program;
8. Must submit at least one publishable article for Master's and published article in either Science and Humanities Journal, Annals of Tropical Research, Scopus Indexed Journal for Doctor of Philosophy upon graduation; and
9. Must return to his/her country upon completion of his graduate degree program.
10. Must sign a fellowship contract with VSU

Privileges of the Scholar:

1. Free School Fees
2. Stipend of \$ 400/month
3. Thesis/Dissertation support of \$ 1,000 for Master's and \$2,000 for Doctoral (First release - 50%; Second release - 25% and Third release - 25% upon submission of the approved thesis/dissertation manuscript).