



## **Graduate Students – External Fellowship Bonus and Incentive Policy**

October 10, 2007

Brown's Graduate School has an Incentives policy in place for students who are awarded External Fellowships. For those PHD students enrolled in the Division of Biology & Medicine, there is also an incentives policy in place but the details and implementation differ from the Graduate School. The following INCENTIVES policy is in place for PHD Students in BioMed.

**THE DIVISION encourages all students to apply for external fellowships as these bring recognition and important resources to the student, his/her Graduate Program and the University. We concur with the Deans of the Graduate School in their belief that "...it is of fundamental importance that graduate students gain the recognition and experience entailed in applying for, and winning, competitive grant funding".**

**We also recognize that many fellowships or scholarships only cover partial support. Any actively enrolled and supported PHD student in BioMed who is awarded a fellowship that includes a stipend award will receive a supplement that ensures that their total stipend is equal to the Official Annual Stipend of PHD students admitted to Graduate Programs in the Division of Biology & Medicine after Fall 2005 (*all bonuses and supplements are subject to the terms of the fellowship*). In the Academic Year of 2007-08, this stipend is \$25,000 (for students admitted as of Fall 2005).**

**If a student's directly awarded fellowship exceeds 80% of the total official stipend of that academic year, the student will also be eligible for a monthly bonus during the time of their fellowship.**

### **Explanations:**

***Supplement:*** We recognize that some fellowships or scholarships cover only partial support and the stipend that they award may be less than the Division's official stipend level (\$25,000 in 2007-08 for students who entered programs after August 2005). Therefore, any actively enrolled and supported PhD student who is within years 1 – 6 of study who is awarded a fellowship by government agencies or foundations external to Brown University (e.g. NSF, NIH, Ford Foundation, etc.) will receive a supplement to that awarded stipend so that their total stipend is equal to the Division's stated stipend of that year (\$25,000 in 07-08).

**Bonus:** Any actively enrolled and supported PhD student within years 1 - 6 who has a fellowship awarded by government agencies or foundations external to Brown University (e.g. NSF, NIH, Ford Foundation, etc.) with a total value equal to at least 80% of the Divisional stipend, will be paid a stipend bonus of \$150/month for the duration of the fellowship (unless the terms of the fellowship specifically prohibit supplementation). In 2007-08, 80% is \$20,000; as the Division stipend goes up, so will the minimum fellowship dollar value needed to qualify for this bonus. If a student chooses to defer the fellowship that makes them eligible for this bonus for a certain time period (a semester to TA for example), then the bonus will also be deferred.

It is the student's responsibility to provide their Graduate Program Director with a copy of the Notice of Grant Award so that financial details can be confirmed.

This policy is in place only for those fellowships directly awarded in Student's names by Outside entities. Students who are supported via Grants or Fellowships directly awarded to Faculty Members are not eligible for a bonus. Students supported by Faculty Training Grants (T-32 Grants) are not eligible for a bonus.

Please note that students who hold fellowships awarded by the University from any University funds (gifts, endowments, etc.) are not eligible for the bonus, since these funds are already part of the University budget.

- *This policy is subject to compliance with the terms of the awarded Fellowship*
- *This policy and the amounts awarded in bonus are subject to change in future academic years.*