Welcome back, Pirates!

The Graduate School is incredibly excited to welcome new students for this upcoming year! Pirate Pearls, the monthly graduate student newsletter, is a great resource for important dates, campus events (e.g., academic, social), and more! Graduate school is a busy time. This newsletter is full of reminders to help keep you on track. Check your email for these newsletters to get up-to-date news stories. Have a great Fall semester!
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

Health insurance is a **requirement** for students meeting specific eligibility criteria. An affordable Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) is offered through Student Blue from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, or students may elect to keep their current health insurance coverage if they are already covered by an individual plan or through a parents’ plan.

If you are taking 3 or more credits of campus-based courses, you are eligible to purchase the campus Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP). **If you do not want this plan, you MUST waive out or you will be billed for it.**

**Deadline to take action (either enroll in, or waive out of, SHIP):**
Fall semester - September 10

**Eligibility Requirements:**
Graduate Students must be:
- in a degree-seeking, ON-CAMPUS program
- enrolled in 3 or more credit hours each semester (Fall/Spring)
- pay the health fee with tuition

**SHIP benefits and rate information**
Student Blue has a website just for ECU parents and students. To view plan benefits, including a general summary, medical benefits, and health/wellness benefits, visit the Student Blue for ECU benefits page.
Rate information (billed on a semester basis)
- Fall Semester $1,352.08* (effective dates 08/01/22 — 12/31/22)
- Spring Semester $1,352.08* (effective dates 01/01/23 — 07/31/23)
* rate is pending Department of Insurance approval.

For more info on SHIP, [click here](#)! Student Health Services also has a FAQ page which includes some insurance questions!
TUITION & FEES UPDATE

Beginning in fall 2022, students will be classified as distance education students depending on the degree program in which they are enrolled rather than by the method of instruction for a given course or semester. For the purpose of assessing student fees, a distance education program is one designed to deliver 80% or more of its instruction through distance education or off-campus.

Students enrolled in such distance education programs taking one or fewer classes on-campus per term will be assessed only the campus security, educational and technology, and association of student government fees, and will not have access to services and activities supported by other student fees unless they opt-in to those on-campus services and pay an additional fee.

Students enrolled in such distance education programs taking two or more on-campus courses per term will be assessed all mandatory fees.

Students not enrolled in distance education programs will be assessed all mandatory fees regardless of how their courses are delivered in each semester.

For the full list of designated distance education programs or for more information, visit https://online.ecu.edu/de-billing-update/. For questions not addressed in the FAQ, email onlineservices@ecu.edu or call 1-800-398-9275.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: FALL CAREER FAIRS

**Part-Time Job Fair**
August 23, 2022 • 1-4 p.m.
Main Campus Student Center, Ballrooms A-C
Find On- and Off-Campus Jobs
Federal Work Study & Self-Help Opportunities
Visit career.ecu.edu for more information

Register for the Part-Time Job Fair HERE!

**Health Careers Job Fair**
East Carolina Heart Institute
College of Allied Health Sciences • College of Nursing
College of Health and Human Performance
September 12, 2022
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Employers Recruiting Future Health Care Professionals
Register on Handshake
For more information: visit career.ecu.edu

Register for the Health Careers Job Fair

**Job & Internship Fair**
Employers recruiting ECU Pirates
All majors welcome!

View attending employers in Handshake
career.ecu.edu
Sept. 28, 2022 • 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Greenville Convention Center

Register for the Job & Internship Fair
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
FALL CAREER FAIRS

Science, Engineering
AND Technology Fair

September 28, 2022
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Greenville Convention Center

Register for the
Science, Engineering, & Technology Fair

Grad School Fair

Thinking about Graduate School?
Register to learn which program
is right for you!

November 2, 2022
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
VIRTUAL on Handshake

Visit career.ecu.edu

Need CAREER Help?

Drop-In Hours
Career Services
In-Person (701 E. Fifth Street)
or Virtual (career.ecu.edu)

Monday–Friday | 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

For information on upcoming career fairs, login to Handshake or contact Career Services at career@ecu.edu. Career Services has resources geared towards graduate students, such as recorded professional development workshops. Check it out!
GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT ORIENTATION

This is offered each semester. The Graduate School provides an opportunity for graduate students who are already teaching assistants or know they will be in the future to learn more about teaching at ECU and how to perform as a teaching assistant overall. Held at times in-person and virtually, this nearly day-long workshop includes information on academic policies, academic integrity, how to provide feedback to students, and more!

All graduate students are welcome whether they are currently a teaching assistant or not. Undergraduate students who know they will be a graduate teaching assistant at ECU within 1-2 semesters are also welcome!

Register here for the August 11th (9 AM - 3 PM) Microsoft Teams training. Click here for the full orientation day schedule.

ASSISTANTSHIP REQUIREMENT

Were you awarded an assistantship?

Congratulations on accepting a graduate assistantship! Here is a quick explanation to help make your hiring process smoother.

It is required for you to sign an I-9 form if you are employed on campus. Your ECU email will be the method we use to communicate with you if we need you to complete an I-9. You will only receive an email invitation to complete an I-9 if an I-9 is required of you. Continue to check your email notifications.

If you receive an invitation to complete an I-9, you will need to present documentation to verify your identity. For example, you can present an un-expired passport or a combination of your student ID and your social security card. A complete list of acceptable documents will be attached to the email invitation to complete an I-9. Please note we cannot accept copies of documents. We must see the original documents.

If you have questions about your I-9 you can contact the student employment office I-9 coordinator at 252-328-6873.
Plate-to-Permit registration and purchase for the 2022-2023 academic year is as follows:

- A2 Permits- College Hill Residents August 1st at 8am
- B2 Permits- Central/Core Residents August 8th at 8am
- D1 Permits- REMOTE LOT- AVAILABLE TO ALL RESIDENTS August 11th at 8am
- C2 Permits- Main Campus Commuters August 11th at 8am
- B4 Permits- Health Science Campus Commuters August 11th at 8am

Vehicle Registration and permit purchases can be done throughout the year on a space-available basis.

Student permits are purchased according to availability, living arrangements and will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Freshman/First year ECU students are allowed to have vehicles parked on campus. Priority for permit sales will not be considered under any circumstance.

All student permits are valid according to the academic year August 1 to July 31 of the following year. These permits are not automatically renewed and must be purchased prior to parking on campus.

Permits can be purchased online via Pirate Port. Once a permit is sold out, You can join the waitlist on the Parking Portal through Pirate Port. Students will be notified via ECU email when space becomes available.

Permits are not transferable and the Parking Office must be notified via email at parking@ecu.edu or call (252) 328-6294, if you leave school or no longer wish to park. Please see our Refund Policy.

Instructions for buying a permit and additional information (e.g., type of permits, costs) are available here.

NOTE: you must park HEAD-IN. Pulling through or backing into a space is not allowed unless you have a state-issued or ECU-issued license plate. Parallel parking must be with the flow of traffic. This is for the LPR camera to be able to read your license plate.
Thesis-Dissertation Boot Camp is offered each semester in partnership with the Graduate School, Joyner Library, and the University Writing Center. They are held in person or virtually.

September 8th and 9th
8:30 AM – 3:00 PM
REGISTER HERE!

Thesis/Dissertation Boot Camp is designed to give students focused writing time. We will meet virtually (using Microsoft TEAMS) for 2 days. We will have a meeting space in Microsoft TEAMS and you will "check-in" with the group several times between 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM. The idea is that you will be giving yourself at least 2.5 - 3 hours of focused writing time per day.

Focused writing time means sitting in front of your laptop working on pages of your document, researching sources to use, making figures or tables, organizing references. You will want to be in a quiet, supportive location that will make progress on this important document an achievable goal. It is not a workshop with group activities or lots of interaction, although there is some! We do not want you too join the group, but then do other things throughout the day and not writing.
The National Science Foundation (NSF) has released a solicitation for applications for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP). The GRP program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students who are pursuing full-time research-based master’s and doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) or in STEM education. The NSF expects to award 2,750 Graduate Research Fellowships per fiscal year under this program solicitation pending the availability of funds.

The fellowship will provide three years of support over a five-year fellowship period for the graduate education of individuals who have demonstrated their potential for significant research achievements in STEM or STEM education.

Due dates range from Oct. 17 to Oct. 21, depending on topic area.

NSF actively encourages women, persons who are members of groups historically underrepresented in STEM, persons with disabilities, and veterans to apply.

Interested? Click HERE and read about the opportunity! Contact your mentor if you are interested in applying.
## Fall 2022 Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 25</td>
<td>Early Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, July 1</td>
<td>First day of class for M-3 &amp; M-4 Medical Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, July 1</td>
<td>First eBill notification for M-3 &amp; M-4 Medical Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, July 18</td>
<td>First eBill notification for all campuses</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- All students will receive weekly eBills for Fall 2022 until November 6, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 21</td>
<td>First day of class for M-1 Medical Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, August 1</td>
<td>First day of class for M-2 Medical Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 4</td>
<td>Postmark date for mailing payments for Fall 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 11</td>
<td>All Fall 2022 billing statements are due. All outstanding balances on your billing statement must be paid in full.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- All schedules may be cancelled for non-payment after 5:00 pm. If you do not plan to attend, you must officially withdraw on, or before, the final cancel date. You will be responsible for payment if you do not officially withdraw.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* The on-line payment system will not be available between 5:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 11</td>
<td>For Fall 2022 term, the university will assess a $25.00 processing fee for all students incurring tuition and fee charges for the first time or charges being incurred from re-registration on August 11, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, August 22</td>
<td>First day of class for Main Campus and Distance Education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, August 30</td>
<td>All students will be cancelled for non-payment after 5:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* The on-line payment system will not be available between 5:00 pm and 12:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, September 12</td>
<td>Last day to enroll or waive out of Student Health Insurance Plan for Fall 2022</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Updated: June 22, 2022
Please remember that there are separate academic calendars for the 15-week semester and the Alternative Block schedules. Make sure to check the corresponding calendars if you have a mix of block & 15-week courses this semester.
**Important Dates & Deadlines**

**Alternate Block Scheduling**

**Fall Semester 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 19, Friday</td>
<td>Advising, registration, and schedule adjustments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 22, Monday</td>
<td>Classes begin; schedule adjustments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 24, Wednesday</td>
<td>Last day for registration and schedule adjustments (drop/add), by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 5, Monday</td>
<td>State Holiday (no classes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 19, Monday</td>
<td>Last day for undergraduate and graduate students to withdraw from Block 1 courses by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 29, Thursday</td>
<td>Survey of Student Opinion of Instruction (SSOI) becomes available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 6, Thursday</td>
<td>Classes end.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12, Wednesday</td>
<td>Grades due by 8:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12, Wednesday</td>
<td>Classes begin; schedule adjustments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 14, Friday</td>
<td>Last day for registration and schedule adjustments (drop/add), by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 10, Thursday</td>
<td>Last day for undergraduate and graduate students to withdraw from Block 2 courses by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 18, Friday</td>
<td>Survey of Student Opinion of Instruction (SSOI) becomes available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 23-27, Wednesday-Sunday</td>
<td>Thanksgiving break – Classes resume at 8:00 am Monday, November 28.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 30, Wednesday</td>
<td>Classes end.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 16</td>
<td>Grades due at 4:30 pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please remember that there are separate academic calendars for the **15-week semester** and the **Alternative Block schedules**. Make sure to check the corresponding calendars if you have a mix of block & 15-week courses this semester.