

## **GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP DEFERMENT**

Student loans may be deferred when pursuing an approved course of study under a graduate or post-graduate fellowship program. Principal and interest do not accrue during a period of graduate/fellowship deferment. Loans may be deferred for the period of fellowship-supported study up to a maximum of three years. To determine if your loan type is eligible, please refer to the [student loan eligibility guide](#).

### **Eligibility**

To qualify for a graduate fellowship deferment you must be accepted for or engaged in full-time study in an institution's graduate fellowship program.

Additionally, to qualify for a graduate fellowship deferment, your loan account must be paid to the start of the deferment period

### **Grace Period**

Following a graduate fellowship deferment, you will receive an additional six-month grace period. Principal and interest will not accrue during the post-deferment grace period.

### **Applying for a Graduate Fellowship Deferment**

There are two ways to apply for a graduate fellowship deferment:

- 1.) Print and submit a graduate fellowship deferment application (*Information & Forms page*).
  - a. Complete Part I;
  - b. Have an authorized person complete Part II;
  - c. Send the completed application to:

Office of Student Loans and Scholarships  
108 Shields Building  
University Park, PA 16802

- 2.) Provide a letter from your institution (where the graduate fellowship is being conducted) certifying that you have been accepted for or engaged in full-time study in an institution's graduate fellowship program. The letter must include the institution's name, address, and the dates of your graduate fellowship.

### **What are my options if my loan is not eligible for a Graduate Fellowship deferment?**

If your loan is not eligible for a graduate fellowship deferment and you are unable to meet your scheduled payments, you may apply for an [unemployment/economic hardship deferment or forbearance](#).