



DOCTORAL AND GRADUATE STUDENTS' COUNCIL

The Graduate Center, CUNY
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Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council (DGSC) Steering Committee Statement on Out-of-State Tuition Waiver

August 2, 2021

Dear Chancellor Matos Rodríguez and the CUNY Board of Trustees,

We, the Steering Committee of the Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council (DGSC), call upon the CUNY administration and Board of Trustees to extend the out-of-state tuition waiver to incoming second year students for the 2021-2022 academic year. With the start of the year just around the corner, we share the concerns of students who remain uncertain of their academic future and, as of now, risk being charged out-of-state tuition.

In compliance with CDC guidelines restricting non-essential travel and state-issued stay at home orders, many incoming second year students were unable to move to New York City and establish residency here during their first year of study. As a result, they might be charged out-of-state tuition (\$6,615 per semester) at the start of the academic year. Given the health risks of moving during this unprecedented public health crisis, it is unfair and unreasonable to charge students out-of-state tuition. This will put affected students in an extremely precarious situation, and they will be at a disadvantage compared to their peers who began their graduate studies in non-pandemic times.

Echoing student demands laid out in a widely-circulated [petition](#) in May 2021, which gathered 700 signatures, we request an extension of the out-of-state tuition waiver for the 2021-2022 academic year so that incoming second year students are not punished for respecting public health guidelines and for delaying their move to New York City during the pandemic.

As the DGSC Steering Committee, we have received numerous inquiries from students who are worried about the lack of public response to their concerns since this petition was circulated two months ago. We wish to express our support for affected students and call for a timely resolution to this problem.

Thank you for your leadership during these challenging times, and your attention to this matter.

Signed,
The 2021-2022 DGSC Steering Committee

Sharanya Dutta, Co-Chair for Student Affairs
Deborah Leter, Co-Chair for Communications
Adam Kocurek, Co-Chair for Business



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Edward Charnley, University Student Senate Delegate
Parisa Montazaran Osmanovic, University Faculty Senate Liaison
Carmín Quijano Seda, Officer for Student Life and Services
Adashima Oyo, Officer for Library and Technology
Christian Martinez, Officer for Grants and Funding
Silvia Rivera Alfaro, Officer for Health and Wellness
Katie Anderson, Officer for Governance and Membership
Sameer Sabharwal-Siddiqi, Officer for Outreach