

Graduate Program Handbook

Department of Physics
Old Dominion University



Last Revised: April 8, 2026

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PREFACE

This Physics Department Graduate Program Handbook is intended to provide a reference of Department policies and procedures concerning Graduate Students and Graduate Education in the Department. It is recognized that special circumstances, not directly addressed by the Manual, are likely to arise from time to time. The Manual is not meant to constrain the Department's ability to react in those circumstances and it is understood that deviations from policies or guidelines, made in good faith by the Chair or by faculty of the Department, may be necessary on occasion.

Policy on the Graduate Student SPEAK Test

Revision Date: April 21, 2020

Non-English speaking graduate students must pass the SPEAK Test within one year of their start of graduate school at ODU. Failing to do so could entail forfeiting departmental financial support. Requests for an extension beyond the one-year limit must be made in writing to the Department Chair for consideration and will be approved only if the request is deemed to be justified.

Policy on Graduate Student Teaching

Revision Date: September 27, 2016

Each graduate student in the physics Ph.D. program is required to gain teaching experience during his/her graduate studies. The minimum teaching requirement for the Ph.D. degree is four “points”: each laboratory session counts as two points, and each recitation session counts as one point. The student can teach any combination of lab or recitation sections to fulfill the four-point requirement.

The student must be ready to begin fulfilling these teaching requirements (including satisfactory performance on the “Speak Test”) no later than the beginning of his/her fourth year of study. Although the student may be asked to grade homework, lab work or exams while on TA appointments prior to the time when he/she has gained approval to teach, such grading will not fulfill any part of the teaching requirement.

Policy on Counting an USPAS TA toward the Departmental Graduate Teaching Requirement

Revision Date: October 21, 2015

Approved: Graduate Program Committee

A student who serves as a teaching assistant (TA) for USPAS will have that assignment count as fulfilling one-half (1/2) of the Departmental graduate student teaching requirement (2 “points”).

A student who serves as a TA at two **separate** USPAS schools will earn 4 points and will have fully satisfied the Department teaching requirement.

Guidelines on Fulfilling the Teaching Requirement for Students Entering on an RA

Revision Date: September 24, 2015

The Department has a teaching requirement for all PhD students. Most students will satisfy this requirement in their first year as a GTA. Some students, however, will start as a GRA upon arrival at ODU. For such students, the teaching requirement should normally be fulfilled no later than the fourth year in the graduate program.

The GPD, in coordination with the Operations Manager, will periodically remind students who still need to fulfill their teaching requirement. The student's advisor will also be notified.

Policy on MS Students Who Wish to Enter the PhD Program

1. A student who has been admitted into the MS program in Physics at ODU can, at any time, request to be (re-)considered for admission at the Ph.D. level, even if that student was initially not admitted at that level. Any such requests must be made to the GPD, who will be ultimately responsible for the decision taken.
2. No action will be taken on any such requests until after the student has attempted the Written Qualifying Exam for the first time.
3. All graduate students taking the Written Qualifying Exam will be considered for passing at the Ph.D. level (regardless of their status at the time of the exam). Any student failing at the Ph.D. level will also be considered for passing at the MS level. If a student admitted into the MS program passes the Exam at the Ph.D. level, that student will be informed of this fact.
4. If a student in the MS program passes the Written Qualifying Exam at the Ph.D. level and requests to be admitted to the Ph.D. program, his or her request will be considered by the full Graduate Program Committee (GPC) of the Department. If the progress of the student up to that point appears to indicate promise for successful completion of a Ph.D. at ODU, the GPC may grant the request in which case the student will be placed into the Ph.D. program at the beginning of the following semester. The student will have to take all required doctoral-level classes not already passed at the level of "B" or better; however, he/she will not have to retake the Written Qualifying Exam. After all other requirements are met, the student may complete the Oral part of the exam and proceed to candidacy if passed.
5. If the student has already passed the Written Qualifying Exam at the Masters level but not at the Ph.D. level, or completed a MS via the thesis option, the only avenue to be admitted into the Ph.D. track will be a new application package submitted to the Graduate Admissions Committee of the Department. Such an application must demonstrate substantial new evidence that the student is capable of Ph.D. level work, beyond what is already contained in the original application material. Any such application will be considered on equal footing with all other outside applicants to the Ph.D. program in Physics at ODU. The decision lies with the Admissions Committee in this case. If admitted, the student will have to retake the Written Qualifying Exam and pass it at the Ph.D. level to remain a doctoral candidate. All doctoral-level classes already passed with a B or better are counted towards the completion of the Ph.D.
6. A student who takes the Written Qualifying Exam but does not pass at the MS level is ineligible for admission into the Ph.D. Program.

Policy on 600 Level Elective Courses Taken Outside the Physics Department

Revision Date: September 9, 2014

Approval by: Graduate Program Committee

1. 600-level courses taken by physics graduate students in departments other than the Physics Department (for example, in the Chemistry Department) can qualify as an elective.
2. A graduate student must submit a request in writing to the GPC to take a 600 level course outside of the Physics Department and to have it count toward the elective requirement in the Department. The request must be approved by the GPC for the course to count as an elective.

Policy on Graduate Student Vacation

Revision Date: March 10, 2026

Approved by: Faculty Meeting Vote

Graduate Research Assistants Vacation Policy

Graduate Research Assistantship positions provide stipends to graduate students for assigned work up to 20 hours/week. These positions may or may not advance the students' dissertation or thesis research. In either case, it is understood that students are required to work beyond the hours of the assistantship to ensure timely progress towards the completion of their research degree requirements.

To promote a positive working environment, graduate students in a GRA position are entitled to one week of vacation per semester (Fall, Spring and Summer). The dates can be modified based on the individual's research schedule in consultation with the research mentor.

Taken from the College of Sciences policy manual, effective August 25, 2025.

Graduate Teaching Assistants Vacation Policy

Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) positions provide stipends to graduate students in exchange for instructional duties of up to 20 hours/week. These duties may include leading laboratories or discussion sections, grading, proctoring, holding office hours, and other instructional support as assigned. GTA appointments are central to the department's instructional mission, and reliability and continuity of instruction are essential expectations.

Graduate students in a GTA position are entitled to up to one week of vacation per semester (Fall, Spring, and Summer). Vacation requests must be submitted well in advance of the planned travel (several weeks or before the beginning of the term in which the vacation is to be taken) and approved by the research mentor (or, if no research mentor is assigned, by the Graduate Program Director) and the Physics Department Office Manager. Approval is contingent upon ensuring that instructional responsibilities are fully covered and that no disruption to student learning occurs.

Because GTAs directly support active courses, vacation absences during the instructional period will be approved only under exceptional circumstances. Whenever possible, vacation should be scheduled during official academic breaks, such as Spring Break, the Fall Holiday, or the Winter Break / Thanksgiving Week.

GTA assignments are determined by departmental instructional needs. While students may express preferences, including for online-only assignments, no guarantee can be made that such placements will be available. All GTAs are expected to accept and fulfill the assignments offered.

NOTE for both GRAs and GTAs: Vacation days cannot be accumulated across multiple years.

Special Note for International Students

We strongly encourage our international students to be very cautious about planning travel abroad during their vacation, and to get advice from the International Student Office (“VISA”) before finalizing any such travel plans. Consulting with the office early allows the team to advise on potential entry requirements and help ensure a smooth return to campus. The department cannot guarantee continuation of assistantship funding if a student is unable to return to the United States due to visa issues and therefore cannot fulfill assistantship responsibilities.

Guidelines on Administration of the Written Candidacy Examination

Revision Dates: May 13, 2021; October 21, 2016

The written Candidacy Examination is given 2 times per calendar year. Normally, it is expected that an incoming Ph.D. student makes a first attempt to pass the Exam at the end of the Spring Semester of the first year at ODU (May). Students who fail the first attempt can retake the exam at the second time (January). Under special circumstances, a student and/or the Graduate Program Director can petition the Graduate Committee to delay the first exam attempt.

The Exam will be administered over two days. When scheduling permits, the Exam will be given over two days followed by sufficient time to permit scheduling a Faculty Meeting to review performance on the Tuesday immediately following the Exam.

The May Exam will be given during the 2nd or 3rd week of May. The Faculty Meeting to review Exam results will be held on the Tuesday of the week immediately following administration of the exam, if possible.

The January Exam will be given during the week immediately preceding the start of the Spring semester. The Faculty Meeting to review the Exam results will be held on the first Tuesday of the Spring semester, if possible.

Policy on Graduate Student Access to Completed Written Candidacy Examination

Revision Date: September 27, 2016; September 29, 2005

Storage of Examination Papers:

All completed Written Candidacy Examination papers will be stored in a locked file under the supervision of the Graduate Program Director for a period of one year after completion of the examination. At the end of that one-year period, those papers will be destroyed.

Graduate Student Access:

- (1) Any student, independent of whether he/she did or did not pass the Written Candidacy Examination, will be granted access to his/her examination papers.
- (2) A graduate student who failed the Written Candidacy Examination on either of the two allowed attempts will be allowed to read his/her examination papers, but only in the presence of a faculty member of the Department of Physics designated by the Graduate Program Director. The student may make his/her own personal notes about the contents of those papers, but under no circumstances will he/she be allowed to make direct copies by any process. The student must make arrangements to read his/her papers directly with the Graduate Program Director.
- (3) A graduate student who is allowed to read his/her examination papers will not be allowed to see any of the grades assigned to his/her work. The faculty member who supervises the student's reading will have access to those grades and will indicate to the student whether his/her performance on a particular problem was satisfactory or unsatisfactory.

Guidelines on the Composition of the Dissertation Committee

Revision Date: August 5, 2024; September 27, 2016; September 18, 2013

Approved by: Graduate Program Committee

1. The formation of the Dissertation Committee should be within three months of the date of passing the written qualifying exam.
2. A Physics Department dissertation committee consists of (at least) five graduate-certified tenured, tenure-track, or adjunct faculty members, or scientists of equivalent standing from outside of ODU that are graduate-certified at ODU. The chair of the committee (the main advisor of the Ph.D. student) must be a full-time member of the department, including a Jefferson Lab Professor. At least four committee members (including adjunct professors) will be from within the department and one committee member comes from outside the department. The latter committee member can also come from outside ODU but cannot be an Adjunct or Jefferson Lab Professor or have any other faculty appointment with the Physics Department at ODU.
3. Of these committee members, (at least) one member (not to include the advisor) should be from the same area of research as the candidate and another from a related field. For example, for a dissertation in Theoretical Nuclear Physics, one of the committee members should be from Nuclear Theory and one from Nuclear Experiment. The remaining internal member should be from a different research direction, such as the Accelerator Physics Group or the Atomic Physics Group.

The complete membership of the Dissertation Committee must be documented on Form D2. Any changes of the composition of the committee must be agreed upon by the student and the GPD and be documented by a new version of Form D2.

Guidelines on the Composition of the MS Thesis Committee

Revision Date: September 27, 2016

Approved by: Graduate Program Committee

The MS Committee should consist of three faculty members from within the Physics Department (Thesis Advisor plus two additional faculty). For cases in which the Advisor is not a member of the Physics Department faculty, the Committee should consist of the Advisor and two additional members who are faculty of the Physics Department.

Any scenario where the above guideline is not applicable will be handled by the Chair of the Physics Department on a case-by-case basis.

The complete membership of the Thesis Committee must be documented on Form M1. Any changes of the composition of the committee must be agreed upon by the student and the GPD and be documented by a new version of Form M1.

Policy on the Graduate Oral Exam

Revision Dates: October 21, 2016; September 18, 2013

Approved by: - Graduate Program Committee

1. The oral exam should be taken within 12 months of the date of the passing of the written exam.
2. Any requests for an extension of the deadline must be made in writing to the Graduate Program Committee.

Format of exam: The Oral Examination is a one-hour presentation given by the student to his/her Dissertation Committee (not including the “external” member) in a closed session. In general, a student’s dissertation advisor, in consultation with the student may choose from 2 possible presentation formats:

- I. A presentation by the student directly on his/her dissertation research.
- II. A presentation on a specific topic that the student has been assigned to investigate for several months.

For either option, the student must write a short paper of 10 or fewer pages, single-spaced, on his/her presentation topic and give it to all members of the Committee at least two weeks before the scheduled date of the examination. The result of the Oral Exam must be documented on Form D3.

After passing the Oral Exam, a student can advance to candidacy. A new Form D3 needs to be filled out to that effect, under the heading “Dissertation Prospectus”.

After a student has advanced to candidacy and has collected the required number of credit hours (to be determined by GPD), they may proceed to the status “ABD” (All But Dissertation). This status is documented on Form D9 and allows the student to enroll in only 1 credit each semester (including summer) until their dissertation defense.

All of the above forms can be obtained from <https://www.odu.edu/graduateschool/forms>.

After advancing to candidacy, all Ph.D. students **must** meet with their full Thesis Committees (including the outside member) at least once every year, for a formal assessment of their progress towards completion of their dissertation project (“Annual Review”). The outcome of these meetings must be documented on Form G10 – RA (Physics), available from Physics Department Headquarters PhysicsDepartment@odu.edu.

Policy on the Dissertation and Dissertation Defense

Added January 31, 2024, for informational purposes:

The acceptance of the Dissertation and the successful Dissertation Defense Examination are the last steps required for the conveyance of the Ph.D. The Dissertation Defense must be scheduled sufficiently ahead of the intended graduation date to allow final revisions and submission to the Dean of the College of Science before *their* deadline. The Dissertation Committee should be provided with a copy of the dissertation early enough for them to evaluate it and provide comments and edits by the time of the Defense. The actual defense **must** be announced to the entire Physics department and through [University Announcements](#).

Required forms:

D3 (Result of Doctoral Examination) – Fill out “Dissertation Defense Examination”, sign by all members of committee.

D5: Doctoral Dissertation Acceptance and Processing

For more information, see <https://www.odu.edu/graduateschool/graduate-student-resources> and <https://www.odu.edu/sci/students/graduate>.

Policy on Evaluation of Graduate Teaching Assistants

Revision Date:

The College of Science requires that TA evaluations should be completed within the first five weeks and first semester evaluations are due in the Associate Dean's office by the eighth week. The Physics Department will conduct evaluations during the fourth and fifth week of classes for first year TAs.

First year TAs will be evaluated twice a year (once every semester), second year TAs will be evaluated once a year (during their fourth teaching semester). Third (and above) year TAs are only evaluated if they are either a candidate to be nominated for one of TA awards or their past performance has shown deficiencies.

Two evaluations are needed for nominating a TA for the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award (ODU). The deadline for such nominations is usually end of January. In order to have sufficient evaluations for award nominations, the Department will select several candidates for award nomination after the regular evaluations (by the fifth week of classes). Sometime during the last few weeks of classes a second (extended) evaluation for these TAs will be conducted.

Policy on Graduate Student Support

Revision Date: October 5, 2004

Approved by: Physics Department Faculty

The Department of Physics is committed to assisting each graduate student achieve his/her educational objectives. Integral aspects of successful progress toward the Ph.D. are the choice of one's doctoral research topic and the maintenance of steady funding for tuition and personal stipend. The following policy clarifies the commitment the Department of Physics has (subject to available funding) to ensure adequate funding until the student completes the Ph.D., and it clarifies the responsibilities of the student.

The First Two Years

The Department of Physics will normally support a new, incoming student by providing full tuition remission and a personal stipend for the first four academic semesters (normally the fall and spring semesters of the first two years), although the student is encouraged to transfer to grant funding earlier if it is available from his/her research advisor. During the regular academic semesters, students with departmental support are expected to perform teaching assistant duties, usually amounting to 20 hours/week of service, as well as to take required courses. During the first summer, students should do research (6 credit hours) with one of the professors in the Department of Physics who will support the student from a research grant. The Chair will counsel the student as to whether that professor can reasonably be expected to have funding available to support the student after the fourth academic semester and about the consequences of a lack of such funding. Students must be enrolled full-time (normally 9 credit hours) and must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA to receive support.

It is most beneficial to the students and the faculty if students start their research in the group with which they hope to complete the Ph.D. However, it is possible for students to change research groups, in consultation with the Chair and the respective research advisors, if the new group has appropriate funds to support the student.

By the beginning of the 2nd summer, students should have selected the research group with which they plan to do their Ph.D. research. Students must be aware that continuance of support from then on will depend on the advisor's funding availability and will remain so for the duration of their studies. In other words, each student must find a grant-supported Research Assistant (RA) position (or other fellowship) after the end of his/her fourth academic semester. It is imperative that the student discuss funding sources with a potential advisor before committing to a research area. This is a pivotal decision point and requires the consent of the Graduate Program Director, the proposed research advisor, and the Chair.

Student Evaluation

The faculty of the Department of Physics will evaluate the success of each student's progress towards his/her degree goals, normally in the 4th academic semester. The evaluation will consider qualifying examination results, course grades, research performance, and any other information that may be available. No funding will be available to continue his or her studies if the student is considered by the faculty (and based on the above criteria) to be unlikely to

complete a Ph.D. Under normal circumstances a student who has maintained a GPA of greater than 3.0 and passed the qualifying exam at the higher level, and whose advisor has adequate research funding, will continue to receive funding.

After the First Four Academic Semesters

Under all but extraordinary situations, once a student begins his/her second summer, he/she will be expected to continue with the same advisor until graduation. The Department Chair, the Graduate Program Director, and the Dean of the College of Sciences must all approve a change of advisor. A student may be assigned teaching duties in subsequent semesters by the Chair, as dictated by departmental needs and the student's degree requirements, after consultation with the student's advisor and/or grant PI.

Fellowship Students

Students admitted to the Physics Department on a fellowship to work in a specific research area will be funded by the fellowship for their entire course of study, including the first two years. In order to maintain funding, they must take the required courses, maintain a 3.0 GPA, pass the qualifying exam, and demonstrate an ability and aptitude for research.

Teaching Assistants

All students are required to do some teaching. In order to work as a TA, the student must pass the requirements to teach, in particular the TA institute and, if required, the 'Speak Test.' It is the student's responsibility to attend the GTA institute. Financial support from the Department cannot be guaranteed if a student does not satisfy the requirements to teach. The procedures in this document are for general guidance only and are not intended to conflict with, or supersede, any Old Dominion University regulations governing advanced degree programs.

College of Sciences Policy on Graduate Student Tuition Waivers

Revision Date: August 8, 2025

Approved by: CoS Chairs Council

As described in the graduate catalog, tuition may be fully or partially covered by grants and/or waivers for applicable M.S. and Ph.D. students on assistantships.

Tuition waivers from the College of Sciences will generally not be awarded to Ph.D. students beyond the number of credits required for the Ph.D. degree. In extenuating circumstances as determined by the GPD, tuition waivers may be approved for up to 6 credits beyond the total number of credits required for the degree.

For students entering the Ph.D. program with an M.S. degree, the required number of credits to be earned for the degree is based on what courses are transferable. This determination is made by the GPD upon evaluation of the students' M.S. transcripts.

Tuition waivers from the College of Sciences will generally not be awarded beyond two years for students in the M.S. degree program. In the case of graduate students conducting field work in a Thesis M.S. Program, these students may be considered for tuition waivers by the GPD for an additional third year.

Further tuition waivers for special cases will be considered by the Associate Dean.

This policy is effective August 25, 2025, for all incoming students, and current students who entered their respective graduate programs in Fall 2024 or later.

College of Sciences Policy on Graduate Student Leave

Revision Date: July 8, 2025

Approved by: CoS Chairs Council

Graduate Research Assistantship positions provide stipends to graduate students for assigned work up to 20 hrs/wk. These positions may or may not advance the students' dissertation or thesis research. In either case, it is understood that students are required to work beyond the hours of the assistantship to ensure timely progress towards the completion of their research degree requirements.

To promote a positive working environment, graduate students in a GRA position are entitled to one week per semester (Fall, Spring and Summer). The dates can be modified based on the individual's research schedule in consultation with the research mentor/advisor/funding principal investigator.

This policy is effective August 25, 2025.

Policy for the annual Ph.D. student travel awards

Revision Date: Fall 2023

Approved by: Graduate Program Committee

The ODU Department of Physics, through the generous support by the College of Sciences, establishes two semi-annual travel awards in the amount of \$500 to partly defray the expenses for Ph.D students in good standing in the department to attend national or international conferences. This policy specifies the procedure and criteria by which the winners for this award will be selected.

1. Announcements for each travel award will be made at the beginning of the Fall and the Spring semesters.
2. The award can only be given to a student who will present original results of their Ph.D research at a scientific conference.
3. Selection criteria are based on a recommendation letter from the student advisor and the academic and research performance of the student.
4. There is a limit of one travel award per year for each student.
5. The Ph.D advisor of the student must provide the necessary matching funds covering all expenses required for a student to give a presentation at a conference.
6. The final decision of selecting the winner for each travel award will be made by the Department Chair based on the above criteria.

Policy on Graduate Course Transfers, Waivers, and Credit by Examination

Revision Date: 2006

1. Students are normally allowed to transfer up to 12 hours of graduate courses if approved by the Graduate Program Director. The equivalency of such transfer courses to those offered at Old Dominion University is normally determined by the Graduate Program Committee. Requests to determine course transfer equivalency must be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Graduate Program Committee, along with supporting materials. The Graduate Program Committee forwards its determinations to the Graduate Program Director.
2. The Graduate Program Director may waive a required graduate course, normally upon the recommendation of the Graduate Program Committee. The Graduate Program Committee recommends such a waiver if, in the committee's judgment, the student has previous experience equivalent to that to be gained from the course and if the student's interests are furthered by his/her not taking the required course. A written request for such a waiver and supporting evidence must be presented to the Chair of the Graduate Program Committee. The Graduate Program Committee forwards its determinations to the Graduate Program Director. The Graduate Program Director is responsible for placing a written record of all waived courses in the student's permanent records in the Department of Physics.
3. Transfer or waiver of required graduate courses does not exempt a student from responsibility for topics presented in those courses at Old Dominion University that might be included in the Written Candidacy Examination.
4. If the Graduate Program Director approves any course transfer or course waiver other than as stated in this policy, then he/she must make a timely report of that action to the Graduate Program Committee.
5. Credit-by-examination is not allowed for any graduate course offered by the Department of Physics.

Nominal Schedule of Graduate Elective Courses

Revision Dates: October 2020

Approved by: Physics Department Faculty

This updates the 2015/2016 policy found in the Appendix

In order to provide graduate students with a full range of courses needed for a modern graduate education, the Department will attempt to offer elective courses based on the following schedule:

Nuclear Physics track offerings of electives:

Fall		Spring	
Intro to NPP	Phys 722/822	Advanced QM	Phys 842
QFT-I*	Phys 871	QFT-II*	Phys 872
Processes in QCD	Phys 790/890	Nuclear Physics	Phys 861

*available online

Condensed Matter/Accelerator/Atomic track offerings of electives:

Fall		Spring	
Accelerator Physics	Phys760/860	Low Temperature Physics [1]	Phys 760/860
		OR	
		Condensed Matter I [1]	Phys 724/824
Accelerator Physics	Phys 754/854	CM and EM in Acc Phys	Phys 859
OR			
Condensed Matter II	Phys 825		
Atomic Physics [2]	Phys 727/827	Atomic & Molecular Physics [2]	Phys 853

[1] This would be a NEW COURSE created by combining the existing PHYS 724/824 (Solid State I) and PHYS 760/860 (Low Temperature). We may need a new number for it (or keep 724/824 but change the name and description). It would discuss all aspects of condensed matter, including solids and liquids, ordinary/semi/super-conductors, BE condensates, superfluidity.

[2] This would be a NEW COURSE created by combining the existing PHYS 827 (Atomic Physics) and PHYS 853 (Atomic and Molecular Physics). Because of the name being the same, we could simply name it PHYS 853, but it probably would need to be a bit more on an introductory level. We may need to have a small committee of AMO faculty define this course in detail.

POLICIES ON AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Policy on Selecting Recipients for the Diederich Scholarship – Nuclear Physics

Revision Date: January 21, 2020

The full name of the scholarship is: “The Brian Donald Diederich and Flavia Alexandra Osorhean Scholarship Endowment for Doctoral Research in Nuclear Physics”

A committee consisting of three members (one from Nuclear Theory, one from Nuclear Experiment, and one from a different research area in the department) will evaluate nominations for the award. The committee is to be nominated by the Chair. The nomination package for the candidate will simply consist of a letter of support from a faculty member. The award is nominally for graduate students in the area of Nuclear Physics (both theory and experiment). However, deserving graduate students from areas other than Nuclear Physics will also be considered.

Criteria as set forth by terms of the scholarship:

- First priority is to provide an additional award to an incoming experimental or theoretical nuclear physics Ph.D. student.
- Second priority is to provide an additional award to an existing experimental or theoretical nuclear physics Ph.D. student
- Third priority is to provide an additional award to an incoming or existing Ph.D. student in another field within the Department of Physics.
- The scholarship may be split between two students.
- The scholarship is renewable, although preference is to use the scholarship to recruit a new student as listed above.

Policy on Selecting Recipients for the Diederich Scholarship – General

Added March 1, 2024

The full name of the scholarship is: “The Brian Donald Diederich Endowed Scholarship Award for Doctoral Research in Physics”.

The criteria are similar to the Nuclear Physics scholarship, except that no preference is given to any subfield of Physics.

The selection will be made by the Department Student Awards Committee, with input from the GPD.

Policy on Selecting Recipients for the Vuskovic Endowment for Graduate Studies in Physics

Added March 1, 2024

Criteria to be added

Policy on Selecting Recipients for the Corey Sargent Memorial Scholarship in Physics

Added March 1, 2024

Policy on Selecting Recipients for the Dominion Scholarship

Revision Date: January 21, 2020

Selection of graduate students to receive the annual Dominion Scholarship will be made by the Department Chair, in consultation with the GPD.

STILL TO BE ADDED:

- Seth Berle Award
- Travel awards: CoS, SEES, PGSA...
- Comprehensive listing of all actions to be taken in sequence and/or on a yearly basis, including necessary forms to fill out. (Qualifier, Dissertation Committee, Oral, Prospectus, annual review, every semester expectations and evaluation,...)
- Requirement to announce all dissertation defenses University-wide; typical deadlines for CoS / ProQuest / Application for Graduation
- New stipend policy?
- Require instate students to actually acquire instate status?