Graduate Students – Frequently Asked Questions regarding Spring/Summer/Fall Registration

Do I have to register for Spring/Summer/Fall semester?
Classes are being offered and it is expected that most students still have work they can be doing to continue their studies. We are expecting that anyone who can continue, will continue. However, we do understand that there are any number of extremely valid reasons why many of you may be unable to register at this time, including both personal reasons and academic reasons (e.g., inability to conduct research).

You are encouraged to consult our Spring/Summer/Fall Registration Option Flowchart and read the rest of this FAQ to help guide your decision-making. If you are required to maintain full-time status but are unable to register for some reason, you may have to complete a Request for Registration Accommodation during COVID-19.

Do I have to be registered full-time for Spring/Summer/Fall if I am a PhD student?
If there is still work that you can do to advance your studies, it is expected that you will register as usual. However, if you are unable to register for any reason, you are encouraged to read this FAQ carefully, consult our Spring/Summer/Fall Registration Option Flowchart, and complete a Request for Registration Accommodation during COVID-19.

Do I have to register full-time for Spring/Summer/Fall if I am an international student?
If there is still work that you can do to advance your studies, it is expected that you will register as usual. However, if you are unable to register for any reason, you can apply to waive your requirement to register for the Spring/Summer/Fall term. You are encouraged to consult our Spring/Summer/Fall Registration Option Flowchart and complete a Request for Registration Accommodation during COVID-19.

As the Covid-19 situation continues to evolve, so do the responses of those around us. Some of these evolving responses have significant impacts on international students. You are encouraged to stay in close contact with UR International, monitor information on the Canadian Government and IRCC web sites, and plan accordingly

− The Canadian Government’s Covid-19 website
− Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) Covid-19 special measures website

How will not registering affect my eligibility for funding?
GSBF and GTA funding will not be affected. However, graduate students may be impacted on their eligibility for other scholarships and external sources of funding. If you are a graduate student in receipt of funding, you should check the terms of reference for funds you currently hold and/or intend to apply for to determine potential impacts. This Funding FAQ helps to explain some of the potential impacts to check for. Please contact your supervisor or grad.funding@uregina.ca if you require further advice.

Again, you are strongly advised to verify funding terms to determine whether applying for full-time status is sufficient for qualification. Students have reported that zero credit full-time status is inadequate for some student loan providers. If that is the case, this may significantly impact your choice.

How do I apply to have my full-time registration requirement waived?
If you are typically required to register full-time and are unable to register for Spring/Summer/Fall term for any reason, you are encouraged to consult our Spring/Summer/Fall Registration Option Flowchart, complete a Request for Registration Accommodation during COVID-19, and select the appropriate the request box for “I am requesting a waiver of registration (I do not need to maintain full-time registration status)”.

How do I apply to be registered in the full-time “zero credit hour/zero tuition” course?
If you need to maintain full-time status and are unable to register for Spring/Summer/Fall term for any reason, you are encouraged to consult our Spring/Summer/Fall Registration Option Flowchart, complete a Request for Registration Accommodation during COVID-19, and select the appropriate request box for “I am requesting registration in the zero credit/no tuition course (I need to maintain full-time registration status).
If you want to apply for registration in this course, recognize that 1) you cannot be registered concurrently in any other courses, 2) it is a final decision, and 3) all relevant add/drop dates still apply. If you want to drop a class and replace it with this course, recognize that approval is not guaranteed and application processing takes time. As such, it is recommended that you submit your application at least three days prior to any relevant drop dates for other courses you may wish to replace.

**Will we get a discount on tuition because classes are being offered on-line?**

Note that FGSR has absolutely no control over tuition and fees. However, it is our understanding that there will be no tuition adjustments because courses are being delivered on-line.

**Will I get charged international or other student fees if my registration is waived?**

Note that FGSR has absolutely no control over tuition and fees. However, it is our understanding that students are not charged fees if they are not registered in any courses. The zero credit hour / zero tuition course is considered a course registration.

**Will I get charged international or other student fees if I am registered in the full-time/0 credit hour course?**

While FGSR has absolutely no control over tuition and fees, it is our understanding that students are charged fees when registered in any type of course, which would include this course.

**Will I be able to get into my lab during the Spring/Summer/Fall term?**

While FGSR has no jurisdiction over research labs, the Vice-President Research continues to monitor the situation and a phased “back to research” plan is currently in place. It is our understanding that faculty members are working with the research office to ensure any return to research is being done as safely as possible to minimize risk to students.

**What if the university opens again part way through the Spring/Summer/Fall term?**

Students do need to be formally registered to be able to access labs and studios. Should your lab or studio reopen at any point during the Spring/Summer/Fall term, students who have not registered would be able to register late in an appropriate course. It would be your choice to register in your regular research credit hours or to apply to register in the full-time zero credit hour/zero tuition course.

Students who are registered in the full-time zero credit hour/zero tuition course would be free to enter their labs once reopened, as this course counts as a valid registration. However, this course carries the restrictions that 1) you cannot be registered concurrently in any other courses, 2) it is a final decision, and 3) all relevant add/drop dates still apply. Therefore, after the add/drop date you would be unable to drop it in exchange for credit bearing courses. We predict that maintaining registration in this course will maximize benefit for most students.

**What is the difference between having my registration waived and registering for the full-time “zero credit hour/zero tuition” course?**

The university can waive your requirement to register in classes if the reason is related to its own internal policies. Having a request to waive your requirement to register approved means that you do not have to maintain full-time student status in order to maintain good standing as a student. For international students good standing is communicated by us to IRCC to meet student visa/study permit requirements. While FGSR has absolutely no control over tuition and fees, it is our understanding that students are not charged fees if they are not registered in any courses.

The university cannot waive an external organizations’ requirement that you register full-time. Such organizations may include scholarship or research funding bodies. Having a request to be registered in a full-time zero credit hour / zero tuition course approved means that you will be registered in the zero credit hour / zero tuition course in order to maintain full-time student status in the Spring/Summer term despite being unable to make academic progress. While FGSR has absolutely no control over tuition and fees, it is our understanding that students are charged fees when registered in any type of course.