

GSAS Policies for Fall 2020
New Students, Continuing Students, and Visitors

Revised August 28, 2020

Yale welcomes all new and continuing graduate students to campus for the fall semester. We have established precautions and behaviors for the safety of our community that make it possible to enjoy the benefits of access to campus. However, we know some students' situations make it difficult or impossible to travel to New Haven in time for the beginning of the term. These policies are designed to allow as many students as possible to begin or continue their studies in the fall. **This policy summary is subject to change.**

New Students

1. With the permission of their program, new students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents may choose to study remotely in the fall semester with the permission of their programs.
2. New international master's or Ph.D. students planning to study in New Haven need to secure a student visa and arrive for orientation starting August 24 if possible and no later than September 30.
 - We will hold Ph.D. students' stipend checks if students need to arrive after the first stipend payment on August 31.
 - Please note that first-year international students must have an in-person component in their course work in order to meet their visa requirements. International students starting remotely and planning to come to campus when their visas are issued should choose courses with this requirement in mind.
3. If new international Ph.D. students cannot secure a visa and arrive in the U.S. by September 30, they must defer, unless their department or program approves remote study. If they are approved to study remotely, they have three options for receiving stipend payments:
 - **Direct deposit to a U.S. bank account.** Students located abroad can be paid their stipends by direct deposit into their U.S. account and may register and take classes remotely for a term. Subject to departmental approval, they may also be able to enroll remotely for the spring term if they are still unable to arrive in New Haven.
 - **Receive their stipend payments once they arrive on campus in the spring.** New international Ph.D. students without U.S. bank accounts who are willing or able to postpone stipend payments until they arrive in New Haven may take classes remotely for the fall term. We will hold their stipend checks until they arrive. Subject to departmental approval, they may be able to enroll remotely for the spring term as well if they are still unable to arrive in New Haven.

- **Receive their stipend payments via wire transfer on a slightly delayed, bi-weekly schedule.** Students from countries to which wire transfers are not permitted must choose one of the options above.

OISS will adjust the start date on international students' I-20s, depending on their arrival plans.

4. Subject to their program approval, master's degree students in international locations may take classes remotely for the fall term. If they are unable to arrive in New Haven for the spring term, they may need to take a leave of absence.
5. New master's degree students not physically present with F-1 status in the U.S. for the fall 2020 semester may have restrictions on summer 2021 practical training employment if they expect to use curricular optional practical training (CPT) in the summer between a two-year program or optional practical training (OPT) after a one-year master's degree. Employment authorization may not be possible because of the regulatory requirement that a student must be in lawful status for one academic year. We do not know yet if a remote semester will qualify.
6. All students should register and indicate their [learning location](#).
7. All students arriving from international destinations must quarantine in their residences for fourteen days or until a negative arrival test result is received.
8. All programs (Ph.D. and master's degrees) have the flexibility to allow deferrals for a term or a year.

Continuing Ph.D. Students

1. We expect all students to return to New Haven when it is possible for them to do so.
2. All students arriving from international destinations must quarantine in their residences until a negative arrival test result is received. The State of Connecticut also requires individuals travelling to Connecticut from [high incidence states](#) to quarantine for 14 days, irrespective of test results, following their arrival and to complete a [Travel Health Form](#). For more information about plans to keep our community safe and COVID-19 requirements, please consult the [Yale University COVID-19 site](#).
3. Continuing students located abroad may take Yale classes remotely for the fall term if they are unable to arrive in New Haven; their stipend payments will be paid by direct deposit to their U.S. bank accounts. Subject to departmental approval, they may be able to continue taking classes remotely for the spring term as well if they are still unable to arrive in New Haven.
4. All continuing students may teach from outside the country if they are not able to return, but they must teach on New Haven time (EST/EDT).
5. Ph.D. students who have advanced to candidacy and who will be conducting research or field work outside of the New Haven area are encouraged to register *in absentia*. Only students whose

research requires them to be outside of New Haven should choose the *in absentia* option. Students who choose to work from an alternative location should register normally but declare a remote learning location. (See below.) Students living abroad should consult the [International SOS Global Travel Assistance website](#) for information about health care coverage. (we originally misidentified the students eligible for this status, NEW, date)

6. Requests to register *in absentia* for the fall term should be submitted by September 30, 2020.
7. All students should register and indicate their [learning location](#). This information will help determine access to campus and other resources.

Non-Degree Students (International and IvyPlus Graduate School Exchange Scholars, Visiting Students, Visiting Assistants in Research [VARs])

1. All non-degree students, with the exception of the IvyPlus Exchange Scholars, must be in residence in the New Haven area for the duration of their stay, for a period no shorter than three months.
2. Short-term visits of less than a semester should whenever possible be postponed to 2021. Exceptions can be granted by a vice-provost on request from a dean's office and will only be granted where a short-term visit in the fall of 2020 is essential to the University's mission.
3. Scheduled full-term visits are permitted while abiding normal University visitation rules if the sponsoring party can provide adequate and safe space for work to occur without impinging on the activities of regular students and faculty.
4. All non-degree students planning to enroll in classes, with the exception of IvyPlus Exchange Scholars, are expected to be in residence by August 31, the first day of classes. If students are required to self-quarantine for fourteen days, they may arrive as early as August 17, 2020.
5. J-1 and F-1 visa holders are permitted to enter the U.S. up to 30 days in advance of the program start date noted on their DS-2019 or I-20 immigration document.
6. The IvyPlus Exchange Scholar Program will be held remotely, subject to instructor permission. Students in locations outside the U.S. may participate for one term only.
7. Non-degree students who are not taking classes (including Visiting Assistants in Research) must be registered for a period no shorter than three months.
8. Visiting non-degree students must follow all the same rules as degree-seeking students, including initial viral screening and quarantine where advised by the State or Federal governments, COVID-19 safety training, 'Daily Health Checks' and other requirements as established by the Provost's office under the advice of EHS and the public health community.
9. All non-degree students arriving from international destinations must quarantine in their residences until a negative arrival test result is received. The State of Connecticut also requires individuals travelling to Connecticut from [high incidence states](#) to quarantine for 14 days following their arrival and to complete a [Travel Health Form](#).

10. All students should register and indicate their “learning location” (see below); this information will help determine access to campus and other resources.

Learning Locations

1. All students, except those approved for registration *in absentia*, must declare their fall 2020 learning location. The declaration form can be accessed through the Student Information System (SIS).
2. There are [five learning locations](#).
 - Enrolled in residence on-campus: students who are living on campus in either an undergraduate residential college or in graduate student housing in Harkness Hall or Hadley Hall.
 - Enrolled in residence off-campus: students who will be physically on campus for some classes but living in University housing (including Baker Hall) or in a private residence.
 - Enrolled remotely - Living in New Haven Area: students who are completing all coursework online but physically residing in the New Haven area. No access to campus facilities will be available to these students.
 - Enrolled remotely - Living in the U.S.: students who are completing all coursework online and physically residing outside of New Haven, but inside the United States.
 - Enrolled remotely - Living internationally: students who are completing all coursework online and physically residing outside of the United States