

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

Revised July 15, 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 for internal use only and subject to change.**

New Students

1. New students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents may choose to study remotely in the fall semester.
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. We cannot send checks to students who do not have U.S. bank accounts as a matter of routine.
3. If new international Ph.D. students cannot secure a visa and arrive in the U.S. by September 30, they must defer, unless they satisfy one of the following conditions:
 - **They already have a U.S. bank account.** Subject to departmental approval, such students located abroad can be paid their stipends by direct deposit into their U.S. account and may register *in absentia* 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.
 - **They are willing to postpone stipend payments until they arrive.** Subject to departmental approval, 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.
 - OISS will adjust the start date on international students' I-20s, depending on their arrival plans.
4. Master's degree students in international locations may take classes remotely for the fall term only. If they are unable to arrive in New Haven for the spring term, they will 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. We are currently investigating how best to register both domestic and international students doing coursework outside of the New Haven area. Students should check the FAQs for updates.
7. All programs (Ph.D. and master's degrees) have the flexibility to allow deferrals for a term or a year.
8. At present, students arriving in New Haven from international locations and from select locations in the U.S. must observe a 14-day quarantine, although it can be a self-quarantine in their apartments or dorm rooms. As policies related to quarantine change frequently, please consult the [State of Connecticut website](#) for an up-to-date list of other groups of individuals who must also observe the 14-day quarantine.

Continuing Ph.D. Students

1. We expect all students to return to New Haven when it is possible for them to do so.
2. At present, any students coming to New Haven from international locations and from select states in the U.S. must observe a 14-day quarantine, although they may opt to self-quarantine in their apartments or dorm rooms. As policies related to quarantine change frequently, please consult the [State of Connecticut website](#) for an up-to-date list of other groups of individuals who must observe the 14-day quarantine.
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. During the COVID-19 pandemic, all international and domestic students beyond course work years living in the U.S. but outside of the New Haven area are encouraged to register *in absentia* and apply for the travel rider, which provides routine health services outside of New Haven. Yale Health is expected to open registration for the travel rider in early August. Students who are living abroad are also encouraged to register *in absentia* and should consult the [International SOS Global Travel Assistance website](#) for information about health care coverage.
6. We are currently investigating how best to register both domestic and international students doing coursework outside of the New Haven area. Students should check the FAQs for updates.
7. Requests to register *in absentia* should be submitted by July 31, 2020. Requests for registering *in absentia* must be approved before students can apply for a travel rider.
8. All students, especially those living outside of the New Haven area (both in the U.S. and abroad), must provide the University with their address for the 2020-2021 academic year, for tax purposes. We will announce the process for doing so shortly.

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 the 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. Upon arrival in New Haven, students coming from international locations and from select locations in the U.S. must observe a 14-day quarantine, although they may opt to self-quarantine in their apartments or dorm rooms. As policies related to quarantine change frequently, please consult [the State of Connecticut website](#) for an up-to-date list of other groups of individuals who must also observe the 14-day quarantine.