



**⚠** We truly appreciate your patience. Please note that e-form processing may take up to 15 business days.

U.S.-based Students & Scholars: Please review OGS' 2025 Travel Recommendations prior to traveling outside of the United States.

## **OGS ([HTTPS://INTERNATIONAL.NORTHEASTERN.EDU/OGS](https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs))**



2025 TRAVEL RECOMMENDATIONS   E-FORMS

NEW STUDENTS ▾



Students Studying in The United States

# STIPENDED GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

CURRENT STUDENTS ▾

Stipended Graduate Assistantships (SGA) help eligible F-1 and J-1 students to successfully participate in part-time teaching while performing world-class research.

## WHAT IS A STIPENDED GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP?

Eligible F-1 and J-1 students in graduate programs may receive a Stipended Graduate Assistantships (SGA) through their academic department. These awards generally include a stipend, tuition remission, and health plan, and are considered “on-campus employment”. F/J students are eligible to work a maximum of 20-hours per week through their SGA and are not eligible for overload work. They are also not eligible to work in other on-campus positions while holding the SGA.

If you have a position on campus that is titled “Assistant” (e.g. Research Assistant, Teaching Assistant), but you are paid hourly through the Office of Student Employment, Graduate Assistantships & Fellowships, then you most likely do not have an SGA. Stipended Graduate Assistantships are a package offered through the department and you will receive a letter that outlines the details of the SGA.

In order to receive payment for your SGA, you must obtain a Social Security Number (SSN) through the Social Security Administration (SSA). You can learn more about applying for an SSN below.

Students with an SGA should also carefully [review all policies regarding on-campus employment.](#)

[\(https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs/employment/on-campus-employment/f-1-on-campus-employment/\)](https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs/employment/on-campus-employment/f-1-on-campus-employment/)

For [more specific information about receiving an SGA](#), please check with your Graduate School.

STUDENT SUPPORT ▾

**Notes for J-1 Students:**

- If your J-1 program sponsor is Fulbright or another organization other than Northeastern, you will need to request on-campus work permission (and any necessary authorization letters to apply for an SSN) from your J-1 program sponsor.
- You must submit an SGA request for each academic year that you’re continuing on an SGA. SEVIS functionality only allows for authorization to be added for one year at a time, therefore you must submit each year to confirm you’re continuing with your assistantship.

## APPLYING FOR A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN)

If you do not already have an SSN, please follow the steps below.

### 1 Submit a request to OGS

Complete the [Stipended Graduate Assistantships Social Security Number Letter Request](#) [\(https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs/forms-and-guides/sga-social-security-number-letter-request/\)](https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs/forms-and-guides/sga-social-security-number-letter-request/). You

will be asked to provide information such as the College where you will be providing services and your start date.

## 2 Receive your letter

Once your college has confirmed that you have an SGA, a Designated School Official (DSO) from OGS will review your submission and generate the letter. You will receive the letter electronically via email when it has been processed.

## 3 Apply for your Social Security Number

Present the letter to the Social Security Administration (SSA) in order to apply for an SSN. For detailed instructions on how to apply for a Social Security Number, refer to the [Social Security Number section](https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs/employment/other-topics/social-security-number/) (<https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs/employment/other-topics/social-security-number/>) of the OGS website.

**It is the student's responsibility to notify OGS if there are any changes to their SGA.**

# RELATED ARTICLES:

## On Campus Employment

(<https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs/employment/on-campus-employment/f-1-on-campus-employment/>)

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## J-1 On Campus Employment

(<https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs/employment/on-campus-employment/j-1-on-campus-employment/>)

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## Social Security Number

(<https://international.northeastern.edu/ogs/employment/other-topics/social-security-number/>)

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OGS Service Portal (<https://service.northeastern.edu/ogs>)

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 8:30a.m.-5:00p.m.  
(Note: We are closed on Tuesdays from 3:00pm – 4:00pm for all staff training and meeting).  
**Phone Hours:**  
Monday-Friday: 8:30a.m.–4:30p.m. ET

## SOCIAL



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