

**From:** [Dean of the Graduate Division](#)  
**To:** [Dean of the Graduate Division](#)  
**Subject:** Winter Quarter 2021 Updates  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 5, 2021 1:36:27 PM

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January 5, 2020

TO: GRADUATE and PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS

CC: TOTAL CAMPUS DEANS  
VICE CHANCELLOR, STUDENT AFFAIRS  
ASSISTANT DEANS  
GRADUATE DEPARTMENT AND GROUP CHAIRS  
GRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS  
GRADUATE COORDINATORS  
GRADUATE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT STAFF  
GENERAL CAMPUS DEPARTMENT BUSINESS OFFICERS

FR: JAMES ANTONY, Dean of The Graduate Division

SUBJ: Winter Quarter 2021 Updates

Dear Graduate and Professional Students,

Last week you received [the Health Alert from Vice Chancellor- Student Affairs Satterlund and Interim Executive Director - Student Health and Well-Being Angela Scioscia](#). And if you have not already done so, please review the [Return to Learn Plan for Winter Quarter 2021](#). If after reviewing, you have any questions about how the campus plan pertains to graduate or professional students, please feel free to email your academic program/department or my office--we are always happy to help.

**Below I want to highlight information specifically relevant to graduate and professional students.**

- **COVID-19 TESTING:** As mentioned in [the Campus notice last month](#) and [the recent Health Alert last week](#), weekly testing is now in effect. See details on [the Return to Learn Winter 2021 Plan page](#). *Note:* All students living on-campus or coming to campus or any UC location/property for educational, research, co-curricular, recreational or social activities are required to conduct daily symptom screening and participate in no-cost asymptomatic weekly testing. Students living in the San Diego area, studying remotely and not coming to campus or any UC property, are encouraged to participate in free asymptomatic testing twice a month (every 12-16 days). [See more details here](#).
- **ADVISING:** Your academic program, as always, stands ready to offer you support and advising. You should not hesitate to reach out if you have questions about anything, including courses, funding, procedures for participating in research projects, and protocols for returning to labs.
- **IN-PERSON TEACHING:** If you are an Instructional Assistant (IA) please note that

[current public health orders](#) restrict teaching to outdoor in-person or remote modalities. [See more under Winter Instruction on this page.](#) As usual, each instructor may choose the teaching modality that is best for their class. If you need assistance, please reach out to your academic program director, department chair, and/or divisional dean's office; you also can contact The Graduate Division for additional support.

- **ADDITIONAL EXTENSIONS OF TIME LIMITS:** As detailed in [the email from Dean Antony last month](#), the Graduate Council has approved additional extensions of time limits for doctoral students.
- **EXCEPTION EXTENDED for ASEs & GSRs - CHILDCARE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM:** The UC system has extended helpful updates that increased flexibility to the [childcare reimbursement program for ASEs and GSRs](#). See more details in [the letter from Associate Director Nadine Fishel](#).
- **UPDATES ON GSGEI / NRST COVERAGE:** The coverage of Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition (NRST) has now been extended by three additional quarters--UCSD will exclude four COVID-affected quarters [SP20, FA20, WI21, & SP21]--but [see details/caveats in my Dec 7 announcement](#).
- **GRADUATE DIVISION OPEN OFFICE HOURS:** Are scheduled from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (PT) on the following Fridays during Winter Quarter 2021: Jan 15, Feb 5, and Mar 5. Additionally, [Return to Learn All Student Town Halls](#) will continue to be held periodically.

Again, if you have any questions or concerns about Winter Quarter 2021, please reach out to your academic program graduate coordinator. [The Graduate Division](#) is also always available as a resource to you, and if you're unsure of whom to contact, you can email [graduatedean@ucsd.edu](mailto:graduatedean@ucsd.edu).

We also welcome you to regularly check [the Student Updates section of our website](#) (*please note this site recently moved and is now on the Graduate Division website*). We wish you all the best in the new year as we start Winter Quarter together!

