



Tufts
UNIVERSITY

Sackler School
of Graduate
Biomedical Sciences

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Academic Year 2009 – 2010

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This handbook is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a contract between the university and any applicant, student, or other party. The university reserves its right to make changes, without notice, in any course offering, requirements, policies, regulations, dates, and financial or other information contained in this handbook. Questions regarding the content of this handbook may be referred to the Tufts University Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences Dean's Office, 813 Sackler Building, 617-636-6767.

It is the policy of the university not to discriminate on the basis of sex, age, religion, disability, race, color, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, employment policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic or other university-sponsored programs.

SECTION 1: ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND POLICIES

Degrees Offered

The Sackler School offers nine doctor of philosophy degrees: Biochemistry; Cell, Molecular, and Developmental Biology; Cellular and Molecular Physiology; Clinical Research; Genetics; Immunology; Molecular Microbiology; Neuroscience; and Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. Occasionally, and under special circumstances, students in the basic science division may earn a terminal master's degree.

The clinical research division admits applicants to a master's degree program and to a certificate program.

Degree Requirements

PhD and Master's Degree and Certificate Program Course Requirements

The Sackler School requires all graduate students to complete one course in the ethical conduct of research. Students in the basic science division meet this requirement by enrolling in Applied Ethics for Scientists (or an equivalent course); students in the clinical research division complete this requirement by enrolling in Ethics of Clinical Investigation. Each program establishes its own core/required and elective courses.

PhD Dissertation and Master's Thesis Requirements

A dissertation is required for the PhD degree and a thesis is required for the master's degree. All dissertations and theses must be written in a word document format in which the fonts are embedded. Importing of in-print publications is not allowed. Electronic copies of the dissertations and theses are kept in the university archives and in the Hirsh Health Sciences Library. Additional instructions and policies about the preparation and defense of the dissertation and thesis may be obtained from the Dean's Office and on the Sackler School website (<http://sackler.tufts.edu/Student-Life/Student-Services/Graduation-Information.aspx>).

Additional PhD Degree Requirements

A minimum of 32 credits is required for the doctoral degree; five credits must be didactic course credits. Individual programs may require more credits. All students in the basic science division are required to complete the Sackler School Graduate Biochemistry course.

A major portion of work toward the doctoral degree consists of the preparation of a doctoral dissertation. The topic of the dissertation is chosen with the approval of the faculty adviser, and the dissertation is written under his or her supervision. The dissertation must demonstrate high achievement in a specific branch of knowledge, the original development of an appropriate subject, and independent research. A committee of faculty supervising the student's progress must accept the dissertation. Each program will sponsor a committee that examines the student on the dissertation and its background. The examination is oral, written, or both, as determined by the program faculty.

Additional Master's Degree Requirements

A minimum of 16 credits is required for the master's degree; five credits must be didactic course credits. Individual programs may require more credits.

The following standards must be met to earn a master's degree in the basic science division.

1. Complete all of the required didactic courses required for the PhD degree (exception may be made in the Pharmacology Program).
2. Complete elective course requirements as determined by each program.
3. Successfully pass the Qualifying Examination (except in the Molecular Microbiology Program).
4. With the oversight of a thesis committee, complete an acceptable thesis, either research- or literature-based.

A thesis is required for a master's degree and should demonstrate the student's competence in conducting independent investigation. The faculty member supervising the student's research, along with a faculty advisory committee, must approve the thesis topic and accept it for degree credit. An outside thesis committee examiner is not required.

Residence Policy

The minimum residence requirement for the master's degree is four terms of full-time graduate study, 16 credits, and a thesis. The minimum residence requirement for the PhD degree is three academic years of full-time study and a dissertation. Degree requirements are defined by each program and are listed on their individual websites.

Transfer of Credits

Sackler School students may request permission to transfer a maximum of two graduate-level courses completed at another higher education institution before formal admittance to the school. Transfer courses may be counted toward the degree, with the recommendation of the graduate program concerned and the approval of the associate dean. In general, courses used to fulfill the requirements for one degree may not be used towards another degree.

Students who wish to request transfer credit must complete the Transfer Credit Request Form (<http://sackler.tufts.edu/Student-Life/Student-Services/~media/6F63AE7EC83E4ECEA46D1437A42D5CD9.ashx>) and submit an official transcript showing the grade received and credit/s earned in the course to the Dean's Office at least six months before graduation. Students may also be asked to submit course descriptions and reading lists.

Time Limit and Extension of Degree Time

All work for a master's degree must be completed within five consecutive years immediately prior to the award of the degree. For a PhD, all work must be completed within seven consecutive years immediately prior to the award of the degree, unless the student is in a combined degree program.

If a student expects to take more than the allotted time to complete the degree requirements, he or she needs to submit a Request for Time-to-Degree Extension Form to the associate dean. This request must be made before the expiration of the time limit and must include a detailed reason for the extension and a plan for the completion of the degree requirements within the extended time period. Both the student's adviser and program director must certify support for the extension.

Course Approval Policy

New graduate level courses must be approved by the Sackler School Committee on Programs and Faculty and by the Executive Council. Following approval, an appropriate title and a course designator and number will be assigned. All new graduate level courses must be approved before students may enroll for credit. The only exception to this requirement is that Special Topics courses (designated as 293, 294, and 593, 594) may be offered for credit once before approval of the course is required. Special Topics courses may only be designated as 293, 294, 593, or 594 and may not utilize a course title prior to approval.

Course Credit Parameters

One didactic course credit requires about 30 hours of class meeting. If a course requires approximately 60 hours of class and lab meetings, it counts for two credits. Evaluated research may count for up to four credits per semester. No course credit is given for auditing courses, and audits do not appear on student transcripts.

Academic Standing Policy

Each program will determine and list its required courses. If a matriculated or non-matriculated student fails to achieve a grade of B- or better in any course, the program will determine whether the course will be repeated and whether probationary status will be applied. Repeated courses will count as two courses, with both grades appearing on the transcript and counting in the determination of academic standing. If a student earns two grades below B-, the student will be dismissed from the Sackler School. Grades of U are counted as below B-.

In addition, each program will determine the requirements for the qualifying examination. When a program determines that a student has completed the qualifying process and has failed the examination, the student will be dismissed from the Sackler School. If a program permits the examination process to extend beyond the semester in which the student registered for the exam, an incomplete will be recorded on the transcript until the examination process is complete.

In programs where a student may be considered for a master's degree without passing the Qualifying Examination, a student has the option to withdraw from the qualifying process and request consideration for a terminal master's degree.

SECTION 2: REGISTRATION & FINANCES

Continuous Enrollment

All matriculated graduate students are required to be register as full-time students or be on an approved leave of absence for every term between matriculation and graduation. Full-time enrollment is defined as being registered for least four credits per term. The only exception is Clinical Research master's degree candidates whose program does not require summer registration between the first and second year when no courses are offered. Requests for exemption to the full-time enrollment policy are rarely granted by the Dean's Office. To maintain active status, students not in residence must register each term online.

Course information will be available on the Sackler School website (<http://sackler.tufts.edu/Student-Life/Student-Services/Registration-Information.aspx>) before each term. Students are to complete their online registration by the deadline. No course credit will be given for courses for which students fail to register within the first two weeks of classes.

Degree Only Course Registration

After all required courses and research have been completed, degree candidates register for the Master's Degree Only (402) or the PhD Degree Only (403, 404) course for their final term. Students may register only once for the Degree Only course.

Late Registration Fee

A penalty fee of \$25 is charged for late registration. For late payment of any university charge, the fee is 10% of the outstanding balance.

Enrollment Status and Loan Deferment

Tufts University provides information regarding student enrollment status to the National Student Loan Clearinghouse that then provides information to lenders. Enrollment status is either full-time or half-time as follows.

- Full-time status: four or more course credits per term or registration in a Degree Only course (402, 403, or 404)
- Half-time: less than four course credits and greater than or equal to two credits per term
- Less than half-time: less than two credits per term

Federal regulations require that students be enrolled half-time or full-time to receive and defer student loans. Information is transmitted monthly to the Clearinghouse. The Dean's Office will complete verification of enrollment forms for lenders who do not participate in the Clearinghouse. The forms will be completed and mailed from the Dean's Office within a few days of students' requests. The Sackler School will respond to requests for verification of enrollment that come directly from outside agencies, without notifying students.

Cross-registration Courses

During the academic year, matriculated students may take one course per semester for both a grade and credit through cross-registration agreements with the Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy; the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy; the School of Dental Medicine; the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine; the Graduate School of Arts, Sciences & Engineering; Boston College; Boston University; and Brandeis University. This is subject to the consent of the course instructor, the student's program director and faculty adviser, and both registrars. The Cross-registration Request Form is available at the Sackler Dean's Office or on the website (<http://sackler.tufts.edu/Student-Life/Student-Services/~media/0022D60942A54C2FA302BDCBA3F86F64.ashx>). As with any course, the student should expect to satisfy the normal prerequisites, requirements, and conditions of enrollment. It is not possible to cross-register during the summer term.

Cross-listed Courses

Matriculated Sackler students who wish to take courses that are cross-listed with the Tufts University School of Medicine (TUSM) should register through the Sackler School using the Sackler course designator and number. The Sackler School will provide the TUSM Office of Educational Affairs with a list of students enrolling in cross-listed courses each term to insure that A-F grades are assigned to Sackler students. The Cross-registration Request Form is not required for cross-listed courses.

Course Evaluations

Students are strongly encouraged to complete course evaluations. Each semester, the registrar emails students the links to the course evaluations that are located on the Tufts University Sciences Knowledgebase (TUSK) website (<http://tusk.tufts.edu/>).

Special Student Status

Individuals who have not been admitted to a Sackler School degree program or who are graduates of a Sackler School program may take courses as Special Students. There is no limit to the number of courses Special Students may take; however, those who are subsequently admitted to a Sackler School degree program may only count two previously-taken Sackler courses toward their degrees. Thus, it is recommended that those interested in seeking a degree apply for admission and matriculate before registering for a third course.

Special Students must provide documentation demonstrating that they hold at least a bachelor's degree and meet the normal prerequisites and requirements of the course. Admission to any course is at the discretion of the course director, the graduate program involved, and the registrar, and is subject to the availability of space. At the time of registration, students must pay tuition in full. Sackler School courses that are also included in the curriculum of the School of Medicine are not available to special students. For further information regarding course enrollment, please contact the Sackler Dean's Office or see the website (http://www.tufts.edu/sackler/prospStudents/pdfs/Special_Student_Inst_App_08.pdf).

Visiting Student Status

The Sackler School offers visiting student status to students who are enrolled in other undergraduate or graduate degree programs, are in academic good standing, and are sponsored by Sackler School faculty members to perform biomedical research at the Sackler School. Application materials must be received eight weeks before the start of the desired entry term to allow time for review and, if applicable, visa document preparation. In addition, documentation of required immunizations is mandatory, and students must enroll in school-offered health insurance or provide a waiver verifying other health insurance coverage. Each term, visiting students must register for the Biomedical Techniques & Research course (SK299). Although tuition is waived, students must pay the Health Administration Fee annually. Visiting students are paid the uniform Sackler student stipend by their faculty sponsors.

Course Audit Policy

No course credit is given for auditing courses, and audits do not appear on student transcripts.

Add and Drop Policy

Students may add or drop courses up to fourteen (14) calendar days past the first course meeting of the semester. There is no penalty for dropping courses during this period, and no record of enrollment will appear on students' transcripts. Students must add and drop courses through Student Information System (SIS) Online (<https://hsfonline.tufts.edu/>).

Course Withdrawal Policy

Withdrawal from courses after the Add/Drop deadline requires written permission from a student's program director or an approved leave of absence. A grade of W (withdrawn) or WL (withdrawn due to a leave of absence) will be recorded on the student's transcript, as appropriate.

With permission as described above, students may withdraw from the same course twice but may not register for that course a third time, unless given special permission by the program director.

Grading Policy

Student performance is generally evaluated on an A-F scale. Special topics courses, seminar, journal club, and research may be graded on an A-F basis or on a satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U) basis, at the discretion of each program. A grade of B- or higher is required for credit. A grade of S counts toward the degree. A grade of U is not approved for graduate credit and is considered a failing grade. Grades are recorded as achieved at the end of a course.

Within 30 days from the end of the term all grades must be entered into the Student Information System (SIS) and submitted to the Sackler Dean's Office. Beginning 16 days after the term ends the SIS will be open for grade entry for 14 days.

Incomplete Grading Policy

A grade of Incomplete is used to indicate that more time will be allowed to complete the coursework, but only to a date and time to be determined by the course director and no later than the end of the subsequent term. The permanent grade replaces the incomplete grade upon completion. An incomplete grade is not to be used as a substitute for a failing grade in anticipation of a make-up exam, and will become a failing grade if it is not completed by the designated time.

Grading Symbols

- A Superior work.
- B Meritorious work.
- C Work without marked merit. Not acceptable for graduate credit.
- D Unsatisfactory work. Not acceptable for graduate credit.
- F Failure. Not acceptable for graduate credit.
- S Satisfactory. May be given in special topics courses, in supervised teaching courses, in research courses, in certain graduate colloquia, and in thesis and dissertation courses.
- U Unsatisfactory. May be given in special topics courses, in supervised teaching courses, in research courses, in certain graduate colloquia, and in thesis and dissertation courses. Not acceptable for graduate credit.
- I Incomplete. An indication that more time will be allowed to complete the course work. Replaced with a permanent grade upon completion. Given for acceptable non-academic reasons only, such as illness.
- Y Satisfactory progress in a course not scheduled for evaluation during this grading period. Final grade listed for the second part of the course in a later semester also covers this semester.
- *** Course in progress. Replaced with final grade at the end of the semester.
- TRCR Transfer credit.
- EXEMPT Student has passed an exemption exam in this subject.
- W Withdrawn
- WL Withdrawn due to leave of absence.

Grade Changes

Request for Change of Grade forms are available from the registrar and must be signed by the course instructor, program director, and associate dean before any previously recorded grade will be changed.

Change of Address or Name

Students are required to notify the Dean's Office immediately of any change in address or name. The Address or Name Change Form is available in the Sackler Dean's Office and on the website (<http://sackler.tufts.edu/Student-Life/Student-Services/~media/36B4A7368CD345DF81F4A7B3335DD265.ashx>).

Transcript Requests

Official transcripts are available only upon written request from the student to the Dean's Office. A student may download a Transcript Request Form on the Sackler website (<http://sackler.tufts.edu/Student-Life/Student-Services/~media/5C1B8A8A9944460F80B0B268E3CDAAB1.ashx>) and mail or fax the request. Because federal law prohibits release of transcripts without this written request, verbal and telephone requests cannot be honored. Emailed requests are also not acceptable. Students should allow about 48 hours from the time the form is received in the Dean's Office for the processing and mailing of transcripts.

Official transcripts are affixed with the school seal and signed by the registrar. They are sent directly to the address named in the transcript request.

Students may print unofficial Sackler School transcripts by going to the Student Information System (SIS) Online (<https://hsfonline.tufts.edu/>). Unofficial transcripts may or may not be acceptable to the requesting institution.

Transcripts are withheld from students with outstanding balances on their student accounts until the student has paid all amounts owed to Tufts University. Transcripts from other schools that are part of a student's permanent record at the Sackler School will not be duplicated or released to students. Students must contact these schools directly for transcripts.

Fees and Expenses

The trustees of Tufts University reserve the right to change the tuition fee or to establish additional fees or charges for special features or services. The earliest possible notification of changes in tuition and other fees will be given in these cases.

BASIC SCIENCE DIVISION PROGRAMS

The Sackler School usually covers the full cost of tuition through tuition scholarships for full-time students. In addition, most full-time students in the basic science division programs receive a stipend (research assistantship) that is designed to cover living and educational costs incurred while enrolled in the Sackler School. No separate financial aid form is required for this school-sponsored financial aid.

2009-2010 Basic Science Division Fees and Financial Support			
<u>Fees</u>		<u>Financial Support</u>	
Full-time tuition	\$19,325	Full time tuition scholarship	\$19,325
		Stipend (research assistantship)	\$28,250
Health administration fee	\$200	Health administration fee	\$200
THP health insurance	\$3,276	THP health insurance	\$3,276
Student Activity Fee	\$70		
Per credit cost for non-degree special students is \$2,416 per credit.			
Note: Self-funded students are usually charged \$6,000 per semester to defray research laboratory costs.			

Additional Financial Aid:

Federal Educational Loans

Eligible students may also participate in the Federal Family Education Loan Program to help pay for any unfunded living and educational expenses. The Tufts University School of Medicine Financial Aid Office assists Sackler students with the application process and can be contacted at 617-636-6574.

National Science Foundation (NSF) and Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Graduate Fellowships

These competitive fellowships are for highly qualified students. First-year students are encouraged to apply to the NSF and HHMI Graduate Fellowship Programs when applications become available in August from the National Research Council.

CLINICAL RESEARCH DIVISION PROGRAMS

The Sackler School’s MS and PhD Clinical Research Program students are usually also members of various clinical and research fellowship training programs at Tufts Medical Center. Financial support for participants’ tuition, stipend, fees and insurance are typically provided through federally-funded grants and other resources from within these fellowship training programs. The fellowship stipends vary according to the post-graduate levels of the participants and the available training funds. For matriculated master’s program students, the Sackler School usually covers a partial tuition scholarship for the difference between the National Institutes of Health’s allotted tuition and the full-time Sackler School tuition cost.

2009-2010 Clinical Research Division Fees and Financial Support		
<u>Fees</u>		<u>Financial Support</u>
Full-time tuition	\$19,325	Financial support varies depending on the funding source. Students should ask the Clinical Research Program Office for more information about specific circumstances.
Health administration fee	\$200	
THP health insurance	\$3,276	
Student Activity Fee	\$70	
Per credit cost for non-degree special students is \$2,416 per credit.		
Note: Self-funded students are usually charged \$6,000 per semester to defray research laboratory costs.		

Additional Financial Aid:

Institutional and Individual National Research Service Award (NRSA)

These competitive grant awards are for highly qualified individuals who have a specific research plan. Those who wish to pursue a PhD are encouraged to apply for the individual awards that are sponsored by the various institutes at the NIH and by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

K23 Mentored Research Career Award

These competitive grant awards sponsored by the individual institutes at the NIH and AHRQ are available to support the career development of early faculty investigators who are committed to patient-oriented research. It provides support for supervised study and

research for clinically trained professionals who have the potential to develop into productive, clinical researchers.

Federal Educational Loans

Eligible students may also participate in the Federal Family Education Loan Program to help pay for any unfunded living and educational expenses. The Tufts University School of Medicine Financial Aid Office assists Sackler students with the application process and can be contacted at 617-636-6574.

Health Sciences Bursar's Office Policies

Health Sciences Bursar's Office
200 Harrison Avenue
Posner Hall, Suite #101
Boston, MA 02111
617-636-6551
Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
<http://finance.tufts.edu/bursar/>

Billing

Tufts University bills tuition and fees electronically via Tufts eBill. New students will receive preliminary information in May or June before matriculation from the Sackler School, outlining the Tufts eBill enrollment and billing process. Beginning in June, new students will receive a specific email notice with instructions on how to set up a Tufts eBill account. Once a student's account has been set up, others (i.e. parents) may be invited by the student to view and/or pay the bill.

Note: It is important that all students enroll in Tufts eBill and open and review each new eBill statement, even though there may not be a direct payment due.

Payment

Fall semester bills are issued in the first week of July and are due in the first week of August. Spring semester bills are issued in the first week of November and are due in the first week of December. The specific due date each semester will be noted on the bill.

Students who have a payment due, may pay online by electronic check. Students who prefer not to pay online, may mail their payments with the payment coupon to Tufts University, Health Sciences Bursar's Office, P.O. Box 414090, Boston, MA 02241. Payments may also be made in person at the Bursar's Office.

All students must be financially cleared in order to register for and attend classes.

Penalty Fees

A penalty fee of \$25 is charged for late registration. Accounts not paid or settled by the due date may be subject to a 10% late payment fine. Checks or online payments that are returned unpaid by the student's bank will be charged directly to the student account along with a \$25 returned check fee. A second occurrence will result in a \$50 fee, and all future

payments will need to be paid in certified funds. Diplomas and official transcripts of records for those with unpaid debt are regularly withheld until all payments have been made.

For questions about a bill, please contact the Bursar's Office directly.

Refund Policy

In the event a registered student leaves the university after the beginning of a semester, tuition charges are prorated as follows.

- 1st – 12th calendar day: 80% tuition refund
- 13th – 19th calendar day: 60% tuition refund
- 20th – 26th calendar day: 40% tuition refund
- 27th – 33rd calendar day: 20% tuition refund
- 34th calendar day to end of the term: no tuition refund

The date of withdrawal is the date on which the Sackler School dean's office receives written notice of a student's withdrawal.

Other charges for the term such as the student activity fee, library fines, and university traffic fines are not prorated upon withdrawal during a term.

Other Bursar's Office Services

Other services provided by the Bursar's Office include distribution of petty cash and sale of Tufts Medical Center parking coupons. Please visit the website (<http://finance.tufts.edu/bursar/>) for more complete information, and answers to most frequently asked questions.

Financial Aid Policies

Tufts University School of Medicine Office of Financial Aid
Sackler Building, Suite 821
136 Harrison Avenue (mailing)
Boston, MA 02111

145 Harrison Avenue (walk-in)
Phone: 617-636-6574
Fax: 617-636-3447
Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
<http://www.tufts.edu/med/finaid>

Sackler students receive tuition scholarships and research assistantships which provide stipends. Students are not required to complete a financial aid application to be eligible for these forms of school-sponsored financial aid.

In addition, Sackler students may be eligible to borrow federal educational loans but students must complete the application process. Students seeking additional information should feel free to contact the Tufts University School of Medicine Office of Financial Aid,

which assists Sackler students with the application process for federal educational funds (see below).

Federal Eligibility

To be eligible for financial aid, the applicant must be: 1) accepted or enrolled in a degree-seeking program at the Sackler School on at least a half-time basis, 2) meeting standards of academic progress, 3) a citizen of the United States or an eligible non-citizen, 4) NOT in default with prior student loans, 5) if male, the applicant must comply with requirements of Selective Service Registration, and 6) have no prior drug convictions during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving Title IV aid. Students are required to apply for financial aid each academic year and eligibility is determined for all financial aid programs available on an annual basis.

Students who wish to apply for financial aid should submit the following: Processed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), TUSM Financial Aid Application, and a signed copy of the prior year federal tax return including all W-2's and schedules. If the student was married as of the date the FAFSA was filed, the student must submit his/her spouse's tax returns even if they filed separately.

All application materials including instructions are available at <http://www.tufts.edu/med/finaid>.

Federal Educational Funds

Eligible students may opt to participate in the William D. Ford Direct Loan Program and/or the Federal Work Study Program. Students' eligibility will be determined once all application materials have been submitted and reviewed by the Office of Financial Aid. Eligible students will receive a financial aid award notice (FAN) which will indicate the program and the maximum amounts they are able to borrow/receive. Eligible students may borrow from the William D. Ford Direct Loan Program up to the cost of attendance minus any other educational assistance they are receiving such as scholarship, stipend, and/or other educational assistance.

Students who are interested in borrowing loans from the William D. Ford Direct Loan Program must complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN) by visiting <https://dlenote.ed.gov/emprn/index.jsp> if there is not one already on file. The MPN is valid for a 10-year period and students will not be required to submit another MPN unless it expires during the time they wish to borrow. First time borrowers must complete an entrance interview before funds may be posted by visiting <https://www.dl.ed.gov/borrower/CounselingSessions.do>.

Origination and federal default fees are deducted from all loan proceeds prior to disbursement. The Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loan fee is 1.5%. However, there is an up-front interest rebate that is applied to each disbursement therefore reducing the above fee. The net amount that will be deducted from a Federal Direct Stafford Loan is 0.5%.

All federal awards are disbursed in two equal payments per semester. If students are attending both the fall and spring semester, they will receive half of their total award each semester. The Office of Financial Aid attempts to have loans disbursed on or about the first day of class each semester if all paperwork is received in a timely fashion. When determining budgets for living expenses, students should remember that loans must be repaid with interest. It is to students' advantage to keep expenses and borrowed amounts as low as possible. Students should keep careful records of that loan portfolios and take ownership of the process from the very beginning.

Refund Checks

Refunds result when the actual funds that have been credited to the student's account exceed the charges. A provisional credit is notification of a loan or scholarship application in process and cannot be used as a refund. Refunds will not be granted before the funds are actually received, eligibility has been confirmed, funds have been credited to the student's account, all necessary documents have been processed, and the student has begun enrollment in the semester that he/she is being paid. Students should contact the Bursar's Office with any questions pertaining to their refund.

Withdrawal

If a student completely withdraws from school during a semester and before 60% of the semester has passed, federal regulations require that a school determine the percentage of any federal aid received that is earned. The amount of aid earned is calculated by multiplying the total net amount of federal aid for the semester, by the percentage of the term for which the student was enrolled before withdrawing. The student is responsible for repayment of any unearned living expense money from federal aid advanced before the withdrawal. If the total amount of this repayment due comes from loans, then the student may make this repayment under the original terms of the loan. Please contact the Office of Financial Aid for more information on this policy.

Students should meet with a Financial Aid adviser if they are considering withdrawing to determine the effects on their federal loans. Students who are withdrawing are required to do an exit interview online at <https://www.dl.ed.gov/borrower/CounselingSessions.do>.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Federal regulations require that a student receiving federal assistance must be enrolled at least half-time and make satisfactory academic progress in accordance with standards set by the university. The Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences Dean's Office has the responsibility of monitoring academic progress.

Gramm-Leach Bliley Act

The Financial Modernization Act of 1999, also known as the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act or GLB Act, includes provisions to protect consumers' personal financial information held by financial institutions. The GLB Act gives authority to eight federal agencies and the states to administer and enforce the Financial Privacy Rule and the Safeguards Rule. These two regulations apply to financial institutions, which include not only banks, securities firms, and insurance companies, but also companies providing many other types of financial products and services to consumers, including universities who administer loans and other financial aid.

The Financial Privacy Rule governs the collection and disclosure of customers' personal financial information by financial institutions. It also applies to companies, whether or not they are financial institutions, who receive such information. Because universities are already subject to the privacy provisions in the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Federal Trade Commission decided that institutions of higher education that are complying with FERPA in protecting the privacy of their student financial aid records will be deemed to be in compliance with the GLB Act.

The Safeguards Rule requires all financial institutions that collect or receive customer financial information to design, implement and maintain safeguards to protect such information. Tufts University maintains safeguards to protect student financial information and generally requires that third parties who provide services to the University which requires them to have access to student financial information maintain safeguards that comply with the GLB Act.

SECTION 3: STUDENT SERVICES

Orientation

The Dean's Office is responsible for organizing Orientation Programs. Incoming first-year students receive information about registration and orientation in the summer before they arrive on campus. Students may register online before arriving on campus. During Orientation, incoming students have a chance to meet with their classmates, faculty, and administrative and program staff with whom they will be interacting during the upcoming years. They also obtain their Student Identification Cards. Orientation for students in the clinical research division takes place around July 1, and orientation for students in the basic science division is held just after Labor Day.

Student Identification Cards

Students may obtain Student Identification Cards (I.D.s) at the Campus Police Office, which is located in the lobby of the M & V Building at 136 Harrison Avenue. Students must have their I.D. cards with them at all times. Any student who loses his/her I.D. card should contact the Dean's Office immediately to get an official letter needed to secure a replacement. A replacement fee may be charged by the Campus Police for a lost I.D. card. The Campus Police Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Graduate Student Council

The Sackler Graduate Student Council (SGSC) meets once a month and addresses graduate student academic and student life issues. The Council sponsors social events including the annual Sackler Relays, an athletic competition and picnic that raises money to support students' travel to professional conferences and meetings. The Council also coordinates the Career Paths Seminar Series, a program designed to educate Sackler students about potential career options after graduation, and organizes community outreach programs.

Annually, the Council elects officers from the Council membership, which includes two graduate student representatives from each of Sackler's nine programs and one student representative from the MD/PhD program. The Council also has a faculty liaison, and an administrative liaison. More information about the SGSC can be found on the Sackler website (<http://sackler.tufts.edu/Student-Life/Graduate-Student-Council.aspx>).

Weather Emergency/Cancellation of Classes

Only the President or the President's designee can suspend, in part or totally, regularly scheduled academic or administrative activities at Tufts. The general university policy is not to cancel classes for snow or other emergencies, but rather to hold all class meetings that can reasonably be held. The decision to suspend regularly scheduled academic activities is made as far in advance as possible. Students can call 617-627-INFO for news about weather suspensions, or check the Tufts web page (<http://inside.tufts.edu/>) and look under Announcements. The university usually has announcements made over Boston radio and television stations (WBZ AM 1030, WBZ TV Channel 4) as well.

Health Insurance

Student Advisory & Health Administration Office
Posner Building, 4th floor
200 Harrison Avenue
617-636-2700
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
www.tufts.edu/saha/

State Law and University Policy require that Sackler students be covered by health insurance and submit immunization documentation.

The Sackler School offers a comprehensive health benefits plan through Tufts Health Plan (THP), a separate corporate entity from Tufts University. Eligible dependents include spouse, same-sex domestic partner, and children. For Sackler students, the monthly insurance charge is paid through payroll deduction.

Tufts Health Plan is a health maintenance organization including over 12,000 primary care physicians. Students should be aware that there is no health service clinic available to Tufts University Boston Campus students. The Student Advisory & Health Administration Office manages Sackler's relationship with THP. Students can learn more about the Student Advisory & Health Administration Office and THP by visiting their website (<http://www.tufts.edu/saha/>).

Students must complete a Membership Application to be enrolled in Tufts Health Plan. The effective date of enrollment for new students is the first day of fall semester (not the date of application). Students may only apply for coverage or add a spouse, a same-sex domestic partner, or dependent(s) during the Open Enrollment Period in September, unless there is a qualifying event. Qualifying events include a change in marital status, birth or adoption of a child, or loss of an alternate insurance through no fault of the student or dependent. Application must be made within 30 days of the qualifying event. Students may contact the Student Advisory & Health Administration Office regarding application procedures.

Open Enrollment for the Tufts Health Plan is available during the month of September each academic year. This provides a once-a-year opportunity for students to apply for enrollment or add dependents without a qualifying event. There is a grace period of 30 days beyond the open enrollment date in which to apply.

Alternate Insurance - Waiver Form

The THP student health insurance plan may be waived, provided the student has an alternate health plan underwritten by a United States insurance company that can be used in Massachusetts.

The Waiver certifies participation in a health insurance plan that meets or exceeds the coverage required by Massachusetts General Law. Waiver regulations are posted on the Student Advisory & Health Insurance website (<http://www.tufts.edu/saha/>). Waiver Forms are available at the Student Advisory & Health Administration Office or on the website and must be completed by August 31 of each year.

Student Health Insurance Policy for Students on Leave of Absence

A student who has been granted a leave of absence and who is enrolled in the Tufts Health Plan is eligible to continue that membership for up to one year leave of absence if the student pays for the coverage before the leave begins. The Sackler Dean's Office collects payment for coverage during a leave. Membership in THP will be cancelled if the student does not return at the end of the leave of absence. Students should contact the Student Advisory & Health Administration Office for information before beginning a leave of absence.

Student Health Insurance Policy for Students Withdrawing or Dismissed

A student withdrawing or dismissed from Tufts Sackler School has the option of continuing membership in the student health insurance plan for up to 60 days following the separation date from Tufts University. The student has 15 calendar days from the separation date to notify the Student Advisory & Health Administration (SAHA) Office of his/her intent to continue membership and to submit payment to the Sackler Dean's Office for the full amount of the remaining period of health insurance coverage. Failure to notify the SAHA Office and to complete the paperwork within the 15 day period, or to make full payment to the Sackler Dean's Office for that coverage, will result in the student's health insurance policy being cancelled on the date of withdrawal or dismissal from Tufts University.

Student Health Insurance Policy for Graduating Students

Students graduating during the academic year in August, November, February, or May have the option of continuing the student health insurance coverage for up to 60 days from the official date of graduation. The student has 15 days from the graduation date to notify the Student Advisory & Health Administration (SAHA) Office of his/her intent to continue membership and to submit payment to the Sackler Dean's Office for the full amount of the remaining period of health insurance coverage. Failure to notify the SAHA Office and to complete the paperwork within the 15 day period, or to make full payment to the Sackler Dean's Office for that coverage, will result in the student's health insurance policy being cancelled on the date of graduation from Tufts University.

Immunization Requirements

In compliance with Massachusetts State law and university policy, all health sciences campus students must have an Immunization Form on file at the Student Advisory & Health Administration Office. The form must be completed and signed by the student's personal physician or health care provider, or attach signed documentation from past sources. If unable to provide documentation of immunizations received in the past, students will need to be vaccinated again or provide laboratory evidence of immunity.

Sackler students are required to provide documentation for the following immunizations before their first year registration.

- Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR): two doses of vaccine given at least one month apart beginning at or after 12 months of age, or positive antibody titers.
- Tetanus Diphtheria Acellular Pertussis (Tdap): one dose of the adult Tdap vaccine is required, if current Tetanus Diphtheria (Td) booster is 2 years or greater.
- Meningococcal: one dose of vaccine within the past five years or a signed State Waiver Form.
- Hepatitis B: three doses of vaccine or a positive antibody titer.

- Tuberculosis: one test within one year prior to first year registration.
- Varicella (Chicken Pox): year of disease or if you did not have the disease.

Immunization requirements are subject to change, pending changes or amendments to State Law or Sackler School Policy.

Advising and Counseling Services

Short-term confidential counseling/advice is available from the Student Advisory & Health Administration (SAHA) Office by appointment by calling 617-636-2700. This service is available without charge to all enrolled students. Referrals for psychiatric evaluations or psychotherapy can be made through the SAHA. Payment for these services is the responsibility of the student.

In addition, advice, support, and referrals for personal and medical situations that may arise and interfere with school responsibilities are available through the associate dean of the Sackler School. Call 617-636-6767 to make an appointment.

Dental Health Services

Limited free dental health services are covered through the mandatory Health Administration Fee. These services are available through the Tufts University Dental School Undergraduate Clinics located at One Kneeland Street, Boston. Appointments can be made by calling the Dental School Reception Desk at 617-636-6828. Students should be sure to take their student I.D. cards with them for appointments.

The following services are available at no charge: annual x-rays, annual oral exam, annual cleanings, and emergency services (diagnostic only) that consists of relieving the patient from pain and is provided as a temporary measure. Follow-up treatment is available in the pre-doctoral and post-doctoral clinics and specialties. These services and any associated materials are provided and billed at the standard pre-doctoral or post-doctoral clinic fee rates. The free and reduced rates are not available to family members. However, family members may be treated at the regular clinic rate.

Athletic Facilities

Wang YMCA of Chinatown - Student Membership Program
 8 Oak Street West
 Boston, MA 02116
 617-426-2237
www.ymcaboston.org/wang

Sackler School students are eligible for a discounted membership at the Wang YMCA of Chinatown, located near Tufts University and Tufts Medical Center. To receive the discount, the student must obtain a Student Verification Form from the Student Advisory & Health Administration Office that is located in Posner Hall, 4th floor, at 200 Harrison Avenue, anytime from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. weekdays. Annual and semi-annual fees must be paid in full at the time of application with cash, check or credit card. Monthly fees will be debited from one's checking, savings or credit card account. The Joiner Fee of \$100 is waived at all times, and the Sackler School subsidizes the cost of memberships.

Membership Options:

	Annual Fee	Monthly Fee
Single	\$295.00 for 12 months	\$34.00 per month
Family*	\$590.00 for 12 months	\$65.00 per month

*Family includes any two adults living in the same household and as many children under age 18 who live in the household.

Services for Students with Disabilities

Tufts welcomes applications from students with disabilities, and assures them that the university will provide access to all programs for which they are qualified. Tufts University, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990; and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008; as well as section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, is committed to providing support and equal access for all students so that they may achieve their academic potential.

Disabled students requiring modifications to Sackler School facilities or accommodations related to course work should discuss their situation with the associate dean, who serves as the school's Disability Services Officer.

Types of Needs Served

The Sackler School provides reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities such as impaired hearing, speech, mobility, or vision, and students with learning disabilities and attention deficit disorder. Assistance is also provided to students coping with serious illness (both medical and psychiatric). Students are required to provide the school with current documentation (no more than five years old), including test results, from a qualified professional in the field related to the particular disability, so the school may determine a student's eligibility for services.

The successful provision of reasonable accommodations requires the student's commitment to taking responsibility and following the policies and procedures. Maintaining active communication with both faculty and the associate dean, and complying with deadlines for advance notice of specific accommodations are examples of these student responsibilities.

International Student Services

International Affairs Office

Posner Building, 3rd floor
200 Harrison Avenue
617-636-0355
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
www.tufts.edu/iao/

The International Affairs Office (IAO) serves the Tufts University Health Sciences campus in all aspects of immigration regulations and procedures. This includes administration of the F-1 student visa program, the J-1 exchange visitor program, and the H-1B and TN-1 employment visa programs. The IAO provides orientation to all international students and scholars when they begin at the Tufts University Health Sciences Campus or one of its affiliated hospitals. International students and scholars are welcome to visit the IAO for assistance and advice. IAO strongly recommends that the international student or scholar make an appointment before coming to the office.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has created an internet-based system, the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), to maintain current information on non-immigrant students and J exchange visitors (J students and J research scholars) and their dependents (all those with F, M or J visa status). SEVIS will track F, M and J visa holders from the time they receive their visa documents (Form I-20 or Form DS-2019) until they complete their programs. Under SEVIS, universities are required to provide regular electronic reports to the DHS. SEVIS will link with colleges and universities, U.S. embassies and consulates, U.S. ports of entry, the State Department, and exchange visitor programs. For more information consult the SEVIS website (<http://www.tufts.edu/programs/sevis/>).

Libraries

Hirsh Health Sciences Library

Sackler Building, 4th floor

145 Harrison Avenue

Boston MA 02111

Phone 617-636-6705

Fax 617-636-4039

Monday – Thursday 7:45 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.; Friday 7:45 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Sunday 12:00 noon - 10:00 p.m.

<http://www.library.tufts.edu/hsl/>

The Hirsh Health Sciences Library (HHSL) provides multiple services for Sackler students. Students can learn about these services by reading the HHSL website. The HHSL website has information about:

- Hours
- Computer Support (see below)
- Café
- Document Delivery
- Research Assistance
- Services
- E-Books and E-Journals
- Databases
- Library Policies
- Staff

Boston Library Consortium (<http://www.blc.org/>)

Tufts University is a member of the Boston Library Consortium, an association of research and academic libraries in the greater Boston area. While only a Tufts I.D. is required for admittance to most Consortium libraries, Consortium cards are necessary for access to certain restricted libraries and for borrowing at most institutions. Tufts faculty and graduate students with extended research needs that cannot be met by Tufts' libraries may apply at the Circulation Desk for these cards.

Information Technology Services and Policies

Hirsh Health Sciences Information Technology (IT) Services

Library IT Service Desk

Hirsh Health Sciences Library, Sackler 5th floor

617-636-2947

Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.; Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Email hhsli-its@tufts.edu

<http://www.library.tufts.edu/hsl/index.html>

Primary computer support for students is provided by Hirsh Health Sciences IT Services on the Boston Campus and by Tufts OnLine (<http://student.support.tufts.edu>) on the Medford Campus. TOL can be reached at 617-627-4865. Computer support at the library is provided by phone, email and in person (see contact information above).

Services offered:

- Basic troubleshooting and hardware upgrades for personal laptops
- Computer and mobile device registration to use the Tufts network
- Software installation and assistance
- Reloading your operating system
- Virus and other malware removal
- Enabling library printing
- Email password resets
- Account Registration for Emerald, the BioInformatics Server, and the Linux Research Cluster Server

Responsible Use Policies. The Tufts University Information Technology Responsible Use Policy is a valuable guideline by which students, faculty, and staff can review the requirements of legal and ethical behavior within the university community when using a computer, computer system, or the network. Students are required to know and follow all Information Technology policies found on the web (<http://uit.tufts.edu/?pid=444&c=104>).

Digital Copyright Laws and Enforcement. In 1998 the U.S. Congress passed into law the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). This act protects the rights of owners of digital media. It is used by corporations to protect their movies, music and software from piracy and unlawful duplication.

The DMCA is used in prosecution of persons violating the copyrights of digital media, including music, movies, images and online books or manuals. Copyright holders regularly police common Peer-to-Peer file sharing networks in pursuit of alleged copyright violators. When violators are located the copyright holder informs the university with a "notice to cease and desist," it is then the university's responsibility to remove the offending user from the network. The copyright holder may pursue legal action against individuals who break copyright laws. Tufts University and the Sackler School take file sharing very seriously and violators will be disciplined.

Illegal Media Sharing. Sharing music, software, movies, and TV shows through peer-to-peer file sharing programs such as Limewire, DC++, and Bittorrent is illegal and strictly forbidden. To avoid unintentional downloading of material while connected to the Tufts network, students should remove the programs before bringing their laptop computers to campus. In addition, students should be cautious about downloading files from unknown sources because they may download a virus or spyware onto their computers.

Legal Media Downloads. Students may download music and video material legally. See the Legal Media Downloads (<https://student.support.tufts.edu/links-music.php>) section to learn about how to download music and other media.

Tufts University Health Sciences Bookstore

Arnold Building, 1st floor
116 Harrison Avenue
617-636-6628
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.
<http://www.whywaitforbooks.com>

The Bookstore stocks textbooks and some lab supplies, as well as notebooks and pens, Sackler School clothing, gift items, and snacks.

- At the Bookstore you are not charged the state sales tax on textbooks. Personal checks with local address and phone numbers are accepted in payment of purchases. The Bookstore accepts MasterCard, American Express, Visa, and Discover.
- Textbooks returned within one week after classes begin can be exchanged for a full refund, if in original condition and with the receipt. Course packets are not returnable.
- Single copy orders of any book will be filled.

Housing

Students live throughout Boston in places like Back Bay, South End, Beacon Hill, Allston, Brighton, and South Boston; and in nearby suburbs such as Brookline, Cambridge, Somerville, Arlington, and Malden. When trying to decide where to live, students should consider such things as commuting time to the Sackler School, convenience to local shops, parking availability (if applicable), and proximity to public transportation. Additional information is available on our web site (<http://sackler.tufts.edu/Campus-and-Community/Housing-Resources.aspx>).

Child Care

Tufts Educational Day Care Center

Dr. Janet Zeller, Director
165 Holland Street
Somerville, MA 02144
617-627-3412
<http://ase.tufts.edu/tedcc/>

Tufts Educational Day Care Center (TEDCC) offers an innovative year-round, full-day educational preschool and kindergarten program for children from within the Tufts community and its surrounding cities. The Center is located in a state-of-the-art preschool facility on Tufts' Medford campus. Each of the four classrooms is staffed by three teachers who hold either bachelor's or master's degrees in early childhood education and by a variety of graduate teaching assistants, student teachers, and undergraduate interns. A Parent Coordinator acts as a primary liaison between school and home and supervises a range of family-school activities.

The Center is open to the public, as well as to affiliates of Tufts University. Application to the Center may be made as soon as a child is born, but to enroll the child must be at least 2 years, 9 months as of September. Sackler students are given priority consideration. TEDCC strongly values diversity in its population. In order to make that diversity possible, there is a variety of tuition types for families. There are full tuition slots, scholarship slots, and subsidized slots.

Eliot-Pearson Children’s School

Debbie LeeKeenan, Director
Eliot-Pearson Children’s School
105 College Avenue
Medford, MA 02155
617-627-3434
<http://ase.tufts.edu/epcs/>

The Eliot-Pearson Children’s School is the laboratory demonstration program affiliated with the Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Development at Tufts. The school offers half-day preschool classes for children at least 2 years and 9 months, a half-day kindergarten class with an option for extended day, and a full-day 1st/2nd Grade program.

The Eliot-Pearson School strives to construct the best possible early learning environment for young children, and actively recruits a diverse community of children, families, and staff. The school welcomes the children of Tufts members and families who represent different ethnic and class backgrounds, and those who have particular special needs. The classroom teachers create learning environments that enable each child to become actively involved in meaningful developmental activities.

Bright Horizons Family Solutions

<http://www.brighthorizons.com/>

Bright Horizons Family Solutions provides child care, early education and work/life solutions. They operate more than 500 child care centers and schools across the U.S., Canada and Europe. To find center locations, use the Center/School Locator. Once you have located a center or school that you are interested in, contact them directly. Some Centers are open to the community and others may have a primary affiliation with an employer whose employees have priority.

The Bright Horizons Child Care Center is open to children ages six-weeks to six-years old. The Center helps children develop the skills they need to achieve academic excellence and success in life, and supports parents who are striving to balance the demands of work and family.

Parking (Cars, Bikes, & Motorcycles)

Tufts Shared Services (TSS), Inc
Parking and Transportation Department
274 Tremont Street
617-636-5580
Monday – Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday – 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Student parking is available in the Herald Street Garage and the Traveler Street Lot during the week, with free shuttle service during the hours of operation. Parking is available in the Tremont Street Garage from Friday at 10:00 p.m. – Monday at 8:00 a.m. with a parking coupon per 24 hours.

The Herald Street Garage is open Monday - Friday, 5:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m., and the Traveler Street Lot is open Monday - Friday, 6:00 a.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Parking coupons are available for purchase in the Tufts Shared Services (TSS) office and at the Boston Bursar's Office, located on first floor of Posner, for \$25.00 per book of 5 coupons. The TSS office accepts cash, in-state checks, and MasterCard and Visa credit cards, and the Bursar's Office accepts only cash.

Cars registered out-of-state must file with the Campus Police (M & V Lobby). Out-of-state owners need not register before obtaining parking stickers and coupons.

Car Parking Regulations

- Vehicle registration to prove ownership and a Tufts identification card must both be presented to the TSS Office to obtain a parking decal for one car each year in September.
- Parking is permitted only with a valid TSS parking decal and a \$5.00 parking coupon.
- No in and out parking is allowed on the same parking coupon. If students wish to leave the garage/lot, a new coupon must be used on re-entry.
- No overnight parking is allowed in the Herald Street Garage or the Traveler Street Lot. Overnight parking is allowed at the Tremont Street Garage.
- No weekend parking is allowed in the Herald Street Garage or the Traveler Street Lot.
- The parking facilities do not allow long-term storage of vehicles.
- Parking decals are not transferable. Anyone who uses a lost, stolen or fraudulent sticker will be subject to loss of parking privileges.

Bicycles

Bicycles must be registered with the Boston Campus Police Office (M & V Lobby). After completing the registration form, the serial number is entered into a database and can be used in the event the bike is stolen and an insurance company requests the information. Bike owners should obtain a new decal from the Tufts Shared Services Office and place it on the frame of the bike. With this decal, students can leave their bicycles in a locked cage at the Parking Garage at 274 Tremont Street. Students pay a \$3.00 deposit for a key for the bicycle room, which is refunded when the key is returned.

Motorcycles

Motorcycles may be left in the parking garage at 274 Tremont Street for \$7.75 per day. Students must have their registration information and student I.D. to get a parking decal. Motorcycle owners should obtain a new decal each September from the parking office and place it on the motorcycle. Motorcycles registered out-of-state must file with the Campus Police. Out-of-state owners need not register before obtaining cards.

Police and Escort Services

Tufts University Police Office

136 Harrison, Lobby of M & V Building

617-636-6610

Emergency number only: 617-636-6911 or from a campus phone: 6-6911

Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

The Tufts University Police are responsible for safety and security on the Boston Campus. Students should phone the police in any emergency or to report all suspicious activities.

The Tufts University Police offer the following services.

- Campus escort service
- Police officer patrols
- Campus security officer patrols
- Crime prevention programs
- Criminal investigations/prosecutions
- Emergency services
- Lock/key control/card access
- Monitoring security/fire alarm systems
- Executive protection
- Rape Aggression Defense Class (offered on the Medford campus)
- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification

For students' personal safety, the Tufts University Police provides vehicle and walking escorts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to local transit stops in Boston. Students are encouraged to call the Tufts Police at 617-636-6610 to make arrangements for an escort.

Graduation

Tufts University grants degrees four times per year in August, November, February, and May. Sackler students who are awarded degrees in August, November, and February will receive their diplomas by mail after the degree date; they will also be invited to attend the May commencement ceremony. May diplomas are presented at commencement or mailed to graduates who do not attend the ceremony.

Deadlines

When basic science division students are given approval to begin writing their dissertations by their thesis committees, they should make an appointment with the associate dean. The associate dean will go over graduation deadlines and degree requirements, and answer students' questions so that the process goes smoothly. To be considered for a degree, a student must fulfill all university, Sackler School, and Program requirements. Students must meet the deadlines listed on the Schedule of Requirements for Award of Degrees (<http://sackler.tufts.edu/Student-Life/Student-Services/Graduation-Information/Schedule-for-Awarding-Degrees.aspx>), and should pay particular attention to submitting the

Application for Award of Degree form by the deadline so that their graduation date is not delayed. Students should carefully read the information described below.

Graduation Instructions

Informational documents that are designed to assist students complete their doctoral dissertations and masters theses and meet graduation requirements are available on the Sackler website (<http://www.tufts.edu/sackler/currentStudents/gradInfo.html>) and are also listed below.

- Guidelines for Preparation of the Master's Thesis and Doctoral Dissertation
- Guidelines for Electronic Submission of the Master's Thesis and Doctoral Dissertation
- Graduation Checklist

Graduation Required Forms

Graduation forms are available as fillable PDFs on the Sackler website. Student should open the documents in Adobe Acrobat and type you're his/her name and other information before printing the form.

- Application for Award of Degree Form: Anticipated graduation date and verification that program degree requirements have been completed.
- Certificate of Fitness Form: Verification of successful dissertation or thesis defense.
- Approval of Thesis/Dissertation for Submission Form: Verification of completion of required thesis revisions.
- Survey of Earned Doctorate (PhD candidates only)
- Contact Information and Plans After Graduation Form
- THP Health Insurance Form for Graduating Students

Electronic Submission of Dissertations and Theses

To begin the master's thesis or doctoral dissertation submission process, go to <http://www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/school?siteId=60>. After the electronic submission process is complete, degree candidates must be approved by the Sackler Executive Council. The names of approved candidates are then forwarded to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Stipend Payment after the Thesis Defense

The amount of time a student is paid after a successful defense is determined by the student's thesis committee, within the parameters of the Sackler School Time from Thesis Defense to Completion Policy (see Section 4).

Notary Public

The function of a notary public is, in part, to witness one's signature. Loans and other forms may be notarized in the Sackler School Dean's Office or the Financial Aid Office on Sackler 8, or the Campus Police in the M & V lobby. There is no fee for this service to Tufts students. However, students must present a photo I.D. (such as a student I.D. or driver's license).

SECTION 4: POLICIES

Uniform Stipend Policy

The Executive Council of the Sackler School sets a uniform stipend each year. All full-time basic science division students who have been awarded research assistantships must be paid this uniform amount. Students who are given permission to work less than full-time may receive a prorated stipend amount.

Graduate students may, with the permission of their program director, engage in limited amounts of on-campus employment to supplement the stipend. However, this supplemental employment may not be in the same laboratory in which the student is performing his or her thesis research. Pay for such work cannot come from funds controlled by the student's faculty adviser. Graduate students may not be paid extra for performing tasks which would normally be performed without supplemental pay as part of the graduate program or thesis research project.

Time From Thesis Defense to Completion Policy

After a successful defense, the time needed by basic science division students for completion of thesis revisions typically ranges from 30 to 60 days. During the deliberations of the thesis examination committee, the committee should determine, with input from the student, the amount of full-time effort (in days) needed to complete any required changes. The student, the program director, and the thesis adviser should be informed of this determination. The student's stipend and benefits would continue during this period of full-time effort. Extensions of stipend and benefits beyond the recommended time must be justified, reviewed, and approved by both the program director and the thesis adviser. In no case may the student continue to receive a stipend or benefits once he/she has started in another paid position.

Laboratory Rotations Policy

First-year basic science division students are expected to perform a minimum of four laboratory rotations. Students perform the first two rotations in their home program and may perform the last two in any basic science Sackler program lab that is prepared to have a student rotate. Students should consult their program directors or student advisers for more details. First-year students may not choose a thesis research laboratory before the end of the spring semester. Students will choose a thesis research laboratory in consultation with the student adviser.

Laboratory Injuries Procedure

The Tufts Safety and Risk Management Office considers the Sackler student stipend to be compensation for purposes of Worker's Compensation. Therefore, Sackler students are eligible to receive Worker's Compensation in some cases. This does not mean that Sackler students are employees; they are considered employees for purposes of Worker's Compensation only.

Students who sustain work-related injuries in a laboratory should follow the procedures outlined below.

1. The student should go to the Tufts Medical Center (Tufts MC) Emergency Service for treatment.
2. If the injury is minor, request Tufts MC to send the medical bill directly to the Office of Environmental Health & Safety (EH & S), Posner Hall – Room 105, 200 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02111. Do not give Tufts MC student health insurance information.
3. If the injury is serious, consult with David Slater, Director of Safety and Risk Management (ext. 7-3981) before asking Tufts MC to send the medical bill to the Environmental Health & Safety Office.
4. Request the *Employer's First Report of Injury* form and the *Supervisor's Accident Report* form by calling the Office of Environmental Health & Safety at ext. 6-3615 or download the forms from the web (http://publicsafety.tufts.edu/risk_ins/workercomp.html). The supervisor/faculty adviser must fill out an *Employer's First Report of Injury* and return it immediately because the Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires submission of the form within seven calendar days of the injury. The supervisor/faculty adviser must also complete the *Supervisor's Accident Report*, an in-house document, and send it to the EH & S Office.
5. An initial decision on a claim is usually reached within 72 hours of receipt of the claim. If the claim is compensable, the student will receive worker's compensation checks from the worker's compensation office directly. Tufts works with a third party administrator for Worker's Compensation (Curtin, Murphy and O'Reilly) to handle worker's compensation claims.

Other Types of Illness

For other types of illnesses or injuries not on Tufts property, students are to consult their health care providers to find out where to obtain medical care. If students have any questions about what procedures and tests are covered by insurance, they should call their health care provider for clarification. For questions related to benefits provided by the student health insurance plan, call the Student Advisory & Health Administration Office at 617-636-2700.

Attendance Policy

Regular daily attendance in classes and in the laboratory is required of all basic science division students. Students who anticipate an absence should notify their advisers as far in advance as possible. Students who must be absent from the laboratory due to illness or for other unexpected reasons must call or email their advisers at the beginning of each day to report their absence. At the discretion of the program director, graduate students absent for more than five days during one semester may be required to provide a letter from a physician documenting the illness.

Students should work out their time schedules with their advisers. The adviser must be consulted in advance when a student needs to engage in outside activities that may interfere with normal laboratory work or when a student is in need of a modified schedule. Students who wish to participate in on-campus employment, special tutoring, or teaching programs must discuss this in advance with their advisers and program directors and obtain permission to engage in the activity.

Leaves of Absence Policy

Graduate students may be eligible for several types of leaves. Students considering a leave of absence should discuss their options with the associate dean and their program director. A completed Sackler School Leave of Absence Request Form must be submitted to the associate dean before any request will be considered. These forms are available from the Sackler School Dean's Office.

Graduate stipends and health insurance are not paid by the school during leaves of absence, although a student may elect to continue health insurance by contacting the Sackler Dean's Office and arranging to pay the premiums.

Students are urged to use a leave of absence to address the life events and circumstances that precipitated the leave. Thus, students on leave may not participate in course work or laboratory work, unless otherwise specified by the dean, in consultation with the program director and faculty adviser.

Types of Leaves

1. PERSONAL LEAVE

A student who has experienced a family emergency, illness, death, or who encounters other unforeseen circumstances that require the student to take time off from the school, may request a personal leave of absence. If approved, this type of leave may be granted for any period of time up to one year.

The request for a personal leave must be supported by the student's program director in a letter to the associate dean or dean. This letter must be attached to the Leave of Absence Request Form. The conditions of the leave (duration of time, effective date, return date, whether or not funding or a position in the same laboratory will be assured when the student returns, and any special conditions) must be specified in writing at the time the leave is granted.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

The school may place a student on administrative leave in circumstances where the student has taken an unauthorized leave from the school (i.e., the student's absence has not been approved as vacation time, sick leave, parental leave, or personal leave). Administrative leave also may be imposed when the student's conduct:

- demonstrates a risk of danger to self or others,
- inflicts mental or bodily harm upon any person (including self-harm),
- constitutes intentional or reckless action from which mental or bodily harm could result (including self), or
- causes a person to believe that he or she may suffer bodily or psychological harm.

The student will be notified of the beginning and end date of the administrative leave, and may return before the designated end date of the leave only with the permission of the associate dean or dean and the program director.

3. MEDICAL LEAVES

A medical leave is appropriate when a student's mental or physical condition prevents him or her from effectively participating in the academic program. Medical leaves can be initiated by a student or by the Sackler School.

a. Student-initiated Medical Leave

A student may request a medical leave by submitting a Leave of Absence Request Form and a letter from his or her primary care physician, or other treating physician that sets forth the physical or mental condition(s) that underlie the request for a medical leave. This letter must specify not only the reason(s) for the leave (including the tests that have been used to make the diagnosis, if appropriate), but also the treatment plan and desired outcomes, and the expected duration of the leave. The associate dean or dean, in consultation with others, will review the request and determine whether or not the leave is to be granted. Before approving a request for a medical leave, or a request to return from a medical leave, the Sackler School may have the student and his or her medical records reviewed by a physician of the school's choice.

b. School-initiated Medical Leaves

A student may be placed on a medical leave of absence by the school when there is a rational basis to believe that a student's physical or mental condition poses a risk to the student or to others, or is significantly interfering with the student's ability to adequately continue in his or her academic program.

Under such circumstances, a mental or physical (or both) evaluation may be required. Depending on the outcome of the evaluation(s), the school may place a student on medical leave. Normally, health and counseling records of students are confidential. However, the outcome of any required evaluation will be shared with the designated professional staff member of the Dean's Office.

(i) Temporary Medical Leave

The associate dean or dean may temporarily remove a student from a course or laboratory pending a medical or psychiatric evaluation if remaining in the course or laboratory is thought to be detrimental to the student, others in the laboratory, or others in the school. In such circumstances, a student may be placed on temporary medical leave (usually 10 work days or less). Before taking such action, the associate dean or dean will consult with the program director, faculty adviser, and other appropriate administrators, whenever possible. During a temporary medical leave, the student may be required to submit to a mental or physical examination to determine whether the leave should be extended.

(ii) School-initiated Medical Leave

In instances where a serious physical and/or mental illness significantly impairs a student's ability to continue studies, and when the student cannot or will not request a leave of absence, the dean may elect to place the student on a medical leave of absence after consultation with the program director, faculty adviser, and other appropriate administrators. A medical leave of absence should not exceed one calendar year. The dean may extend a medical leave for up to one calendar year upon the recommendation of a physician(s). If the student's health does not permit the resumption of studies at the end of the second full year, and the student still wishes to return to the program, an application for readmission may be made at a later time.

4. PARENTAL LEAVE

A student may take parental leave to care for a newborn child or a child placed with the student for adoption or foster care. A student may request a parental leave by submitting a Parental Leave of Absence Request Form. A student anticipating a parental leave should make an appointment with the associate dean to review the leave policy and the options available. A student may be away from the School for a maximum of 12 weeks in a 12-month period, although not all of this time will necessarily be paid leave. Paid time off (during which time a student receives a stipend and health insurance benefits) is restricted to the following three components.

- 30 calendar days of paid parental leave
- unused sick leave of up to 12 work days
- unused vacation time of up to 15 work days

The balance of the parental leave plus any additional time off requested is treated as an unpaid personal or medical leave of absence. Students should contact the associate dean to obtain the form required to apply for a personal or medical leave. If a student is away from the School beyond the allowable paid time off and fails to request a leave, the School will place her or him on an unpaid administrative leave of absence.

Return from Leaves

A student who intends to return from any type of leave of absence must notify the Dean's Office and his or her program director in writing, no later than 30 days before the end of the leave. Students who do not return from leaves of absence on or before the date on which the leave expires will be considered to have withdrawn from the university. The effective date of the withdrawal will be the date on which the leave of absence began. Return to the Sackler School after withdrawal requires reapplication and is subject to the conditions of the normal admissions process.

A student on a medical leave of absence who seeks reentry into the School must provide documentation from his or her primary care physician and/or treating physician certifying that the student has been medically cleared to return to the School. The School may require that the student be evaluated by medical care providers of its own choosing, before permitting the student to resume his or her studies. The decision to readmit a student from a medical leave of absence is based on evidence of the student's recovery and his or her ability to handle the academic and cultural demands of the program.

Vacation Policy

Graduate students will be excused from laboratory duties for 15 work days of vacation during each twelve-month academic year (September 1 – August 31) and from December 25 - January 1 of each year. Vacation periods should be scheduled in advance and must be approved by the student's adviser. Vacation time accrued in one academic year must be used before the end of the following academic year or it will be forfeited. The maximum amount of accumulated vacation time that a graduate student may take in one twelve-month period is six weeks exclusive of the December 25 – January 1 period. There will be no payment for accumulated vacation time that remains unused when the student leaves the school.

A student who is away from the school beyond the vacation time allowed will be placed on an administrative leave of absence.

Sick Leave Policy

Full-time Sackler School graduate students who are incapacitated due to illness may be granted an excused absence of up to 12 work days during each twelve-month academic year (September 1 – August 31). The student is expected to notify his or her faculty adviser at the beginning of the day when taking a sick day(s). Unused sick days accrued in one academic year do not carryover to the next year. The student may be required to provide documentation of the incapacitation. The Sackler School reserves the right to have the student and his or her medical records reviewed by a physician chosen by the school.

A student who is absent due to sickness more than the 12 days allowed should request a medical leave of absence. If the student fails to request a leave, the school may place him or her on an unpaid medical leave of absence.

Student Code of Ethics, Ethical Practices, and Professional Conduct

Student Code of Ethics

Graduate students are expected to maintain the highest standards of ethical conduct, academic and scientific integrity. They are expected to conduct themselves with due regard for the rights of others and with reasonable standards of behavior. In cases where students have not conducted themselves accordingly, the university reserves the right to take disciplinary actions, including dismissal. The student has the right to appeal any such actions to an appropriate committee.

This Code contains a set of ethical and professional standards, which all students will be expected to use as a guide for acceptable conduct. This Code shall also serve as the set of substantive and procedural rules that the Sackler School Executive Council will apply in counseling and disciplining students regarding appropriate ethical and professional conduct.

The Sackler School reserves the right to condition attendance upon adherence to these standards in order to protect its ability to function as a research and educational institution. Accordingly, all students who enroll in the Sackler School thereby agree to be governed by the provisions of this Code and this handbook, and are charged with knowledge of it in its entirety.

Neither this Code, nor the Student Handbook is intended to contain an exclusive or complete list of standards, violations of which could result in discipline. They contain those principles that, in the view of the Executive Council, should be sufficient in the great majority of cases for the great majority of unacceptable conduct. The Committee reserves the right to counsel and discipline students regarding conduct in violation of fundamental standards of morality, decency and professionalism even if prohibition of that kind of conduct is not specifically mentioned in this Code.

The substantive rules contained in this Code of Ethical Practices and Professional Conduct are mandatory; each student will be expected to act in accordance with them. The Student Ethics and Grievance Committee shall exercise its discretion, based on its evaluation of the facts and needs of each particular case, in determining what, if any, counseling or disciplinary action to recommend.

Rules and standards of this Code are phrased in the negative, as prohibitions. This is in the nature of a disciplinary code, and does not mean that most students need prohibitions to guide their behavior, or that most of the actions prohibited in the Code are likely to occur.

Indeed, it is because students are assumed to act honorably and decently that it is easier to formulate a brief list of prohibitions rather than a long list of the kinds of honorable conduct.

Ethical Practices

The following conduct is prohibited and can result in counseling or disciplinary action by the Executive Council.

1. Receiving, or giving to, or seeking assistance from any student or person or consulting notes or any written or printed matter during any in-class or take-home examination, quiz, or exercise without the permission of the course director or appropriate instructor.
2. Presenting another's words or ideas as one's own in any thesis, paper, report or presentation without proper attribution, or engaging in other acts of academic dishonesty.
3. Theft or unauthorized use of, malicious or unwarranted damage to, or destruction of property belonging to Tufts University, a member of the school or university community, or a guest or client of the school or university or their affiliates.
4. Failure to adhere to regulations of the university or the Hirsch Health Sciences Library, including but not limited to theft, unauthorized use of books and journals, unauthorized removal of reserved materials, or unauthorized removal of materials placed in the Library for the use of students.
5. Failure to adhere to university regulations governing the use of the school's or university's property, and failure to follow the directions of security officers and/or responsible school and university personnel.
6. Taking or attempting to take, steal, or obtain in an unauthorized manner any material pertaining to a class or laboratory assignment.
7. Failing to follow prescribed laboratory or clinical protocols and procedures or instructions, thereby endangering the health or safety of oneself, other persons, or animals.
8. The employment of fraud, misrepresentation, or deception in the completion of any school or university record, form, or inquiry.
9. Violence or the threat of violence to any other student, member of the faculty, or staff of the school, Tufts University, or their affiliates.
10. Discourteous, disrespectful, or unlawful behavior toward faculty, staff, guests and clients of the school, university, or their affiliates.
11. The employment of fraud, misrepresentation, or deception in any application for, or in connection with, financial aid (including loans, scholarships, fellowships, grants, and work study programs).
12. Repeated failure to take any examination or to complete any required exercise for any reason except illness, or other extenuating circumstances.
13. Failure to appear for and complete all duties pertaining to all laboratory responsibilities for any reason except illness or other extenuating circumstances.

Principles of Professional Conduct

The following actions can be grounds for counseling or disciplinary actions by the Executive Council.

1. Conviction in any state or federal court of a felony, or of a crime involving moral turpitude.
2. Conviction or violation of any state or federal law regulating the possession, use, or distribution of any narcotic drug or controlled substance.
3. Chronic inebriety or habitual use of drugs.

Disciplinary Procedures and Penalties

General Principles

It is the function of the Student Ethics and Grievance Committee (hereafter referred to as "Committee") to make recommendations concerning discipline to the Executive Council. The Committee is composed of five faculty members, one representative from the Dean's Office, and one student representative. The five faculty members shall be appointed by the dean. The student representative shall be selected annually by the Graduate Student Council.

The Executive Council will reach its own conclusions about whether there has been a violation of this Code, and about any appropriate penalty. It is the decision of the Executive Council, and not any recommendation of the Committee, which constitutes a disciplinary decision. In its deliberations the Executive Council is not bound by the rules or procedures of the Committee; the Executive Council will function pursuant to its own procedures.

Disciplinary Procedure

The procedure whereby students may be disciplined pursuant to this Code consists of seven steps or stages: Complaint or Inquiry, Investigation, Hearing, Adjudication, Recommendation, Decision, and Appeal.

A. Complaint or Inquiry

1. A complaint is a statement made to the Committee in which the complainant alleges that a violation of the Code has occurred and that the Committee should investigate the alleged violation.
2. A complaint may be made by any Sackler School faculty member, dean, or officer of the University Police. Administrative assistants, technicians, students, and other non-academic employees of the university or its affiliates may report alleged violations to someone qualified to make a complaint, and the latter may then make the complaint.
3. A complaint may be made orally or in writing to the Dean's Office.
4. An inquiry is a request to the Committee to determine whether an infraction of the Code has occurred. Inquiries should be made only when the inquirer cannot assert that a violation of the Code has, in fact, occurred, but has a good faith belief that a violation may have occurred and that further investigation by the Committee is justified.

B. Investigation

1. Within three weeks of receipt of a complaint or inquiry, the Committee shall begin its investigation of the allegations or inquiries therein.
2. The Committee shall have the authority to request the presence of any person who may have knowledge of, or who may shed light upon, the alleged violation.
3. The Committee shall not begin a full-scale investigation of any complaint or inquiry unless a majority of the present members vote that such an investigation is warranted. If it appears that the allegations of a complaint or inquiry are without merit or cannot be reasonably substantiated, the Committee may, by a majority of voting members present, dismiss the complaint or inquiry and conclude the proceedings in the student's favor.

C. Hearing Procedure

1. The student about whom a complaint or inquiry is made shall be given the opportunity to appear, in person, before the Committee in order to present his/her position, and to question witnesses who testify before the Committee.
2. Legal counsel representing the student is not permitted to be present during any of the Committee's proceedings. However, the student may be accompanied by a fellow student or a member of the faculty for the purpose of advice and assistance at the time that she/he appears before the Committee. Such persons will not be afforded the opportunity to question witnesses or to address the Committee.
3. The student shall be questioned by the Committee, and shall be given full and complete opportunity to make any statement and to provide any evidence to the Committee. The student may also call witnesses or other persons (e.g., character references) before the Committee.
4. The Committee shall not attempt to prove that a violation of the Code occurred but shall impartially evaluate complaints and inquiries. Accordingly, no member of the Committee shall present any case against the accused to the Committee. However, all members of the Committee may ask questions of any witness or pertaining to any evidence.
5. The Committee is not bound by the Rules of Evidence, and may hear any testimony or consider any evidence that it deems relevant or significant.

D. Adjudication

1. Adjudication is the process by which the Committee determines what, if any, recommendation(s) to make to the Executive Council.
2. Adjudication shall be divided into two stages: first, a determination of whether the student has violated the Code; second, a determination of appropriate action or penalty.
3. The Committee shall vote separately on the questions of whether there has been a violation of the Code, and on an appropriate action or penalty. In order for the Committee to find that there has been a violation of the Code, or for the Committee to recommend an action or penalty to the Executive Council, three-fourths of the voting members of the Committee who are present must vote that there has been such violation, or in favor of such action or penalty.
4. If the Committee fails to vote that there has been a violation of the Code, or fails to vote for an action or penalty, no recommendation shall be made to the Executive Council and the matter shall be considered closed. Until such time as a recommendation may be made to the Executive Council, neither the Committee nor any member thereof shall inform any member of the Executive Council of the pending disciplinary proceedings. If the Committee cannot reach a three-fourths affirmative vote that there has been a violation, or on an action or penalty, and for this reason fails to make a recommendation to the Executive Council, there will be no notation in the student's record that disciplinary proceedings have occurred. The fact of such proceedings may not be considered in any subsequent disciplinary proceeding(s) against the student, and the proceedings will remain confidential.
5. The student will not be present during the Committee's adjudicatory deliberations. In the interest of assuring free and open discussion by the Committee, the student will not be informed about what was stated by members of the Committee during discussion leading up to the vote. The Clerk of the Committee will not take minutes of this discussion, aside from noting final directions of the Committee regarding the content of its report to the Executive Council.

E. Recommendations

1. Any determination that, in the Committee's view, the student has violated the Code and that appropriate action or penalty should be ordered by the Executive Council shall be transmitted to the dean within two weeks of the Committee's determination. The Committee's recommendations shall be in writing, signed by the Chairperson, and contain a report summarizing the Committee's reasons for finding that there has been a violation of the Code and for recommending an action or penalty. The Committee's report may contain any supporting material that would be useful to the Executive Council in making its decision.
2. Any member of the Committee, including members who voted against the determination that the code was violated or the recommended action or penalty, may submit a statement explaining his/her vote or position and such statement(s) shall be included in the report transmitted to the Executive Council.
3. A copy of the committee report shall be given to the student.

F. Decision

1. The Executive Council shall make the final decision regarding whether a violation of the Code occurred, and concerning any appropriate action or penalty.
2. If the Executive Council determines that a violation of the Code has not occurred, there shall be no mention in the student's Tufts University record of the disciplinary proceedings.

G. Appeal

1. The student may appeal any final decision of the Executive Council to the dean and any final decision of the dean to the provost of Tufts University.
2. If the student wishes to appeal, he or she must notify the dean (or provost) in writing within two weeks of receipt of the Executive Council's (or dean's) final decision that an appeal is to be made.
3. The dean (or provost) shall receive the complete file of the Student Ethics and Grievance Committee regarding the matter under appeal.
4. The dean (or provost) may request and/or hear and/or review any additional evidence or testimony he or she deems relevant or important.
5. The dean (or provost) may affirm the decision of the Executive Council (or dean), or may make a different determination about whether there has been a violation of the Code, or about the appropriate action or penalty.
6. If the dean (or provost) determines that no violation of the Code has occurred, there shall be no mention of the disciplinary proceedings in the student's Tufts University record.

Actions and Penalties

The following are the actions and penalties which the Student Ethics and Grievance Committee may recommend to the Executive Council, and which may be imposed by the Council, the dean, or the provost for violations of the Student Code of Ethics. The listed actions and penalties are not an exhaustive list; they are only a guide. The Executive Council, dean, and provost may impose any action or penalty that they feel is appropriate.

Counseling

The student will be counseled by the Student Ethics and Grievance Committee, or by some person(s) appointed or authorized by the Committee. Counseling is not considered a punishment or penalty, and is designed to help the student understand his/her reasons for violating the Code and to avoid future violations. An order by the Executive Council that a student be counseled will not be noted in the student's record.

Oral Reprimand Without Notation in the Student's Record

The student will be required to appear before the Student Ethics and Grievance Committee and will be read an oral reprimand. Neither the fact of the reprimand nor its content will be noted in the student's record.

Repeat of Examination

The student will be required to repeat the examination or other course exercise in connection with which the violation of the Code occurred. At the discretion of the Executive Council, the disciplinary proceedings and action may or may not be noted in the student's record.

Written Reprimand

The student will receive a written reprimand by the Committee, signed by the Chairperson. A copy of the written reprimand will be included in the student's record.

Repeat Course in Subsequent Academic Year

The student will be required to repeat the course in connection with which the violation of the Code occurred in a subsequent academic year. The student's program director shall determine whether the student can be permitted to advance to the subsequent year's curriculum while repeating the course.

Probation

The student will be placed on probation for a specified period of time. During such time, the student will remain under the continuing observation and supervision of the Student Ethics and Grievance Committee. The Committee may take appropriate steps, including requiring the student to appear regularly before the Committee or a designated member(s), to assure that the student is acting in accordance with the Code. If the student fails to fulfill the directives of the Committee during this time, the Committee may recommend to the Executive Council that another action or penalty be imposed.

Restitution

Where the student has damaged, converted, or otherwise impaired the value of the property of Tufts University, a Tufts University affiliate, or member or clients thereof, the student may be required to make adequate restitution to the injured party. Restitution may be ordered at the discretion of the Executive Council concurrent with any other action or penalty. At the discretion of the Executive Council, restitution may be in the form of monetary compensation or penalty, which will not be mentioned in the student's Tufts University record. The fact that restitution was ordered shall not be noted in the record.

Suspension

The student will not be permitted to continue as a registered student at Tufts University for a specified period of time. At the expiration of this time period, the student shall be re-enrolled upon his/her request. The student will receive credit only for those courses that have been completed and passed prior to suspension. At the discretion of the Executive Council the student may be permitted to complete courses in progress, the current semester, or the current academic year before beginning the term of suspension.

Probated Suspension

The student will be adjudged to be suspended for a specified period of time. However, the student will not, in fact, be suspended and will be permitted to continue the curriculum but will be placed under the supervision of the Student Ethics and Grievance Committee. If the student violates the Code during the period of probated suspension or fails to fulfill the directives of the Committee during this time, he/she shall then be suspended for the amount of time directed by the original order of suspension.

Expulsion with Possibility of Re-application

The student will be dismissed from the program. However, the student will be permitted to reapply for admission to Tufts University through, and subject to all the conditions of, the regular admissions process.

Final Expulsion

The student will be dismissed from the program, and will not be permitted to reapply or re-enroll.

Probated Expulsion

The student will be adjudged to be expelled with the possibility of re-application, or to be finally expelled. However, the student will not be expelled but will be placed under the supervision of the Student Ethics and Grievance Committee for a specified period of time and permitted to continue the curriculum. If the student violates the Code during this time, or fails to fulfill the directives of the Committee, then the original order of expulsion will be imposed.

All penalties, which appear subsequent to "Repeat of Examination" on the above list of actions, and penalties, with the exception of Restitution, must be noted in the student's Tufts University record.

Tufts University Policy and Procedures Relating to Misconduct in Scientific Research and Scholarship

Academic freedom, including freedom in research, is recognized by the university as fundamental to its educational and intellectual goals. For more information on Tufts University policy and procedures relating to misconduct in scientific research and scholarship, see the Office of the Vice Provost for Research website (<http://viceprovost.tufts.edu/>).

Tufts University Equal Opportunity Office

The Tufts University Office of Equal Opportunity & Affirmative Action (OEO) is committed to ensuring equal opportunity for all members of the Tufts community. Please visit the OEO website for information on the following policies (<http://www.tufts.edu/o eo/>).

1. Tufts University Affirmative Action Policy (<http://www.tufts.edu/o eo/aar.html>)
2. Tufts University Sexual Harassment Policy (<http://www.tufts.edu/o eo/sexualharassment.html>)
3. Tufts University Policy on Consensual Relationships (<http://www.tufts.edu/o eo/consensualrel.html>)
4. Tufts University Non-discrimination Policy (<http://www.tufts.edu/o eo/non-discrpol.html>)
5. Tufts University Policy on Stalking (<http://www.tufts.edu/o eo/pdf/stalkpol.pdf>)
6. Tufts University Sexual Assault Policy (<http://www.tufts.edu/o eo/pdf/SexualAssaultPolicy.pdf>)
7. Tufts University Americans with Disabilities Act/Section 504 Policy (<http://tufts.edu/o eo/disabilitypolicy.html>)

Tufts University Policies on Gatherings, Demonstrations, and Disturbances

Tufts believes free inquiry and expression are indispensable in attaining the goals of the university. Toward this end, Tufts encourages members of the university community to develop the ability to exercise critical judgment, and supports the rights of individuals to express their views and opinions. The university respects the rights of members of the Tufts community to peaceful and unobstructive demonstration for the purpose of expressing and discussing ideas and opinions, and seeks to ensure reasonable time, place, and manner for such expression.

Prohibited Behavior

The university has a concurrent obligation to develop policies and procedures that safeguard this freedom of expression while maintaining an atmosphere conducive to the functioning of the university. The university expects its members to be respectful of the corollary rights of fellow students, faculty, staff, and others to perform their duties and participate in the life of the community, free from disruption, interference, or harassment. Examples of behavior that violates university rules include the following:

- Interference with students, faculty, staff, or visitors to the campus who are seeking to perform their various duties. Blocking, directly or by crowding, an entry to a university

building and/or creating excessive noise that interferes with sanctioned activities, constitutes disruption.

- Intimidation of students, faculty, staff, or visitors to the campus. Examples of intimidation include but are not limited to: causing or attempting to cause physical injury; physically preventing or attempting to prevent use of a university facility; or threatening, by words or actions, either of the above. Picketing outdoors that allows free access to the facility is permitted.
- Destruction of, damage to, or unauthorized access to property, records, documents, files, etc., of the university or of members of the university community.
- Unauthorized entry to a non-public area, a private office, or a university facility declared closed by the university and/or refusal to leave when asked. Such behavior constitutes trespassing.
- Interruption or disturbance of, or unwelcome participation (including symbolic, verbal, or other activity) at religious services being conducted inside Goddard Chapel or at other facilities.
- Failure to identify oneself when asked by a university official or university police officer or refusing to present proper ID when asked.
- Disregarding requests by a university official to disperse or preventing an official from carrying out his/her responsibilities to enforce university rules.
- Aiding and abetting others in violating any of these rules.

Being considered in violation of this policy is not contingent upon notification by a university official. Any individual who engages in the conduct described above, fails to obey reasonable orders, or otherwise interferes with and disrupts the orderly conduct of university affairs will be subject to the disciplinary procedures, which may include suspension or expulsion and, when civil or criminal statutes are violated, even civil or criminal prosecution, depending on the circumstances, such as the nature of the activity and the location where the activity or behavior took place. The activity or behavior described above may also be the basis of disciplinary action when it occurs off campus.

SECTION 5: RECORDS AND PRIVACY

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records.

Definitions

For purposes of this notification, the Tufts University Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences uses the following definitions of terms.

Student - any person who attends or has attended the Tufts University Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences. Persons admitted but never matriculated are not considered students.

Education records - any record (in handwriting, print, tapes, film, electronic, or other medium) maintained by the university or an agent of the university that is directly related to a student, except:

1. A personal record kept by a staff member if it is kept in the sole possession of the maker of the record and is not accessible or revealed to any other person except a temporary substitute for the maker of the record.
2. An employment record of an individual whose employment is not contingent on the fact that he or she is a student, provided the record is used only in relation to the individual's employment.
3. Records which are created and maintained by Public Safety for law enforcement purposes.
4. Records made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in his or her professional or paraprofessional capacity. These records are used only in connection with the treatment of a student and are disclosed only to the individuals providing that treatment.
5. Alumni records that contain information about a student after he or she is no longer in attendance at the university and which do not relate to the person as a student.

School official - a person employed by the university in an administrative, supervisory, academic, or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the university has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

Legitimate educational interest - indicates the need of a school official to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Students' Rights Under FERPA

(1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day on which the University receives a request for access.

Students should submit a written request that specifically identifies the education record(s) they wish to inspect to the associate dean. A representative from the Dean's office will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the

records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the university official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed. A student may read any recommendation in his/her files unless the right to do so has been waived in writing.

The following is a list of the types of education records that the university maintains, the location(s) of such records, and their custodians (or the custodian's designee).

Types	Location	Custodian
Academic Records/Advising Records (progress, advising, evaluations)	Sackler Dean's Office	associate dean/registrar
Admissions File	Sackler Dean's Office	associate dean/associate director of admissions
Enrollment Records	Sackler Dean's Office	associate dean/registrar
Counseling & Testing Records*	Student Advisory & Health Administration (SAHA) Office	SAHA director
Cumulative Academic Records (grades, transcripts)	Sackler Dean's Office	associate dean/registrar
Disabled Student Services	Sackler Dean's Office	associate dean
Disciplinary Records	Sackler Dean's Office	associate dean
Financial Records	Sackler Dean's Office	associate dean
Financial Aid Records	TUSM Financial Aid Office	financial aid director
Health Records*	SAHA Office	SAHA director
International Student Records	International Affairs Office	International Affairs Office
Miscellaneous Records (student education records not included in the above list)	Sackler Dean's Office	associate dean

* Health and counseling records are maintained by the Student Advisory & Health Administration Office and are available only to health professionals. A professional designated by the student in writing may see that student's records.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of his or her privacy rights.

A student may ask the university to amend a record that the student believes is inaccurate or misleading. The student should write to the associate dean, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why the student believes the record is inaccurate or misleading.

If the university decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the university will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

If as a result of the hearing the university decides that the information in the education record is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights,

the student shall have the right to place in the education records a statement commenting on the contested information in the record or the reason(s) the student disagrees with the decision of the university.

(3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

Personally identifiable information from the education records of a student will be disclosed by the university upon the prior written consent or request of the student. The written consent or request must (a) specify the records that may be disclosed, (b) state the purpose of the disclosure, and (c) identify the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made. The student may contact the associate dean for a copy of the Release of Information Form.

However, the university may disclose information without the prior written consent of the student in the following circumstances:

1. To school officials with a legitimate educational interest in the records.
2. To officials of another school, at the request of those officials, in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
3. To certain officials of the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Comptroller General, and state and local educational authorities, in connection with certain state or federally supported education programs.
4. In connection with a student's request for or receipt of financial aid, as necessary to determine the eligibility, amount, or conditions of the financial aid, or to enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.
5. To organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the university.
6. To accrediting organizations to carry out their functions.
7. To either of two parents when at least one parent has claimed the student as a dependent for income tax purposes. A certified copy of the parents' most recent Federal Income Tax Form may be required to verify dependency.
8. To comply with a valid court order or subpoena or to comply with federal law (e.g., the USA Patriot Act).
9. To appropriate parties in a health or safety emergency.
10. To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, the final results of a disciplinary proceeding conducted by the university with respect to that alleged crime or offense. The university may disclose the final results of the disciplinary proceeding, regardless of whether it concluded a violation was committed.
11. Directory information so designated by the university.
12. To parents of students under the age of 21 when laws or university policies regarding alcohol or drugs are violated.
13. To a court or administrative agency in the event of legal action between the university and a student.

Directory/Public Information

"Directory information" is personally identifiable information about students in attendance at the university that may be disclosed without the prior consent of the student, subject to the right of the student to inform the university in writing that all "directory information" with respect to him or her shall not be so disclosed, as discussed below.

The university has designated each of the following items as "directory information":

- Student's name/s
- Local telephone number
- Email address
- Major field of study and current enrollment status
- Degrees

Students may restrict the release of directory information, except to school officials with legitimate educational interests and to others as permitted by law. In order to restrict the release of such records, a student must make a request, in writing, to the associate dean the registrar.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the university to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the federal agency that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605