



## Admitted Student Resources and Logistical Information

### Onboarding

An important source of information is **Setting Up & Preparing for Campus Life** at <https://oge.mit.edu/grad-orientation/preparing-for-campus-life/>. Some of the materials listed on this page are accessible to you now, while others will become available after you have access to your Kerberos account, described below.

Shortly after accepting your offer of admission, you will be notified that you are eligible to create an MIT Kerberos account, thereby establishing your online identity at MIT. To complete this process, you'll find it useful to have your MIT ID number, which is listed near the top of the first page of your acceptance letter. Further instructions about creating an MIT Kerberos account can be found at [ist.mit.edu/accounts](http://ist.mit.edu/accounts).

After setting up your Kerberos account, you will be able to access MIT email and a wide variety of digital resources. Be sure to review the **Admitted Student Resources** at <https://oge.mit.edu/graduate-admissions/admitted-student-resources/>.

**Housing** is, of course, one topic of particular relevance to incoming graduate students. You may wish to attend one of the upcoming Graduate Housing Webinars offered by MIT Housing & Residential Services, details at <https://studentlife.mit.edu/webinars>. You can take a virtual tour of a few of the graduate residence halls: [Graduate Tower at Site 4](#), [Tang Hall](#) and [The Warehouse](#). You can also find detailed information about MIT graduate housing options at <https://studentlife.mit.edu/get-grad-housing>. After setting up your Kerberos account, you will be able to:

- access MIT's off-campus housing site at <https://www.mitoffcampus.com>; and
- participate in the process for on-campus housing self-selection, which opens for family housing (couples, students with children) on April 27 and for all other graduate housing on May 4.

### Tuition and Fees

Information regarding tuition and fees can be found here: <https://registrar.mit.edu/registration-academics/tuition-fees>.

- Please note, the Student Life Fee is paid directly by students unless explicitly covered by an external fellowship.
- HST students are responsible for paying an HMS Preclinical Materials Fee of \$210 for each term in which they enroll in HST030: Pathology (required), HST010: Anatomy (elective), HST040: Microbial Pathogenesis (elective).

Additional assistance regarding graduate financial aid can be found through Student Financial Services: <https://sfs.mit.edu/graduate-students/>

### Compensation and Cost of Living

MIT wants to give applicants a realistic assessment of the costs associated with graduate education. Living costs in the Cambridge and Greater Boston area are among the highest in the United States. The Institute cannot assume financial responsibility for its students beyond any funding offered at the time of admission, or during a student's time at MIT.



Many graduate students are eligible to receive one or more forms of financial assistance in the course of their degree programs. These may include appointments to the research or teaching staff, employment as a resident tutor in an undergraduate residence, loans, or selection as a recipient of one of various internally funded competitive fellowships. More information on funding types can be found here:

<https://oge.mit.edu/gpp/funding-compensation/>.

### Definitions

- A. **Teaching Assistant (TA)\*:** The principal duties of a teaching assistant include, but are not limited to, assisting faculty members in classroom and laboratory instruction, preparing apparatus or material for demonstration, conducting tutorials and discussion sections, holding office hours, counseling students, proctoring exams, maintaining course websites and monitoring discussion boards, and grading homework, quizzes, and exams.
- B. **Research Assistant (RA)\*:** The principal duty of a research assistant is to contribute, under supervision and direction of a faculty member, principal investigator, or other designated individual, to a program of departmental, interdepartmental, or sponsored research, including but not limited to the gathering and analysis of data or evidence; the development of theoretical analyses and models; and the production or publication of scholarly journals and research reports. The appointment is made with the understanding that the overall work experience will contribute to the professional training of the employee.
- C. **Fellow:** A fellowship or traineeship is an award to a graduate student that covers tuition, partially or fully, and also provides a stipend to help defray living expenses. Most awards are made on the basis of merit, but in some circumstances can be based on financial need. A full fellowship covers the full cost of a student's education for a prescribed period of time, which includes tuition and a monthly stipend; many fellowships also pay for student health insurance. Unlike the teaching or research assistant, the fellowship recipient does not have formal teaching or research obligations associated with their funding. Nonetheless, students are required to make satisfactory academic progress through fulfilling academic program requirements, which typically include thesis research and sometimes teaching experience.
- D. **External fellowships:** Students are encouraged to explore fellowship opportunities outside MIT. More information can be found here: <https://oge.mit.edu/fellowships/external-fellowships/>

MIT's standard **salary and stipend rates** can be found here: <https://oge.mit.edu/graduate-admissions/costs-funding/stipend-rates/>. Rates are updated and announced each spring for the next academic year. Note that these rates serve as a guideline to what departments may offer; *historically HST has set rates 5% above this MIT standard.*

Examples of estimated expenses that graduate students can expect when attending MIT can be found here: <https://oge.mit.edu/graduate-admissions/costs-funding/estimated-living-expenses-for-12-months/>. More detailed information on the cost of living in the Cambridge and Greater Boston area can be explored on websites such as the [MIT Living Wage calculator](#) or the [Economic Policy Institute's Family Budget Calculator](#). When estimating your budget, please remember to include the impact of taxes. Federal and state taxes will differ based on individual circumstances but can total as much as 14–30% of a student's stipend or salary.

\* This information is provided for future reference; your current offer is for a first-year fellowship, not an assistantship.

## Terms and Conditions

- RA and TA appointments include work and level-of-effort requirements. See: <https://oge.mit.edu/gpp/funding-compensation/ra-ta-appointments/>
- Fellowships only require satisfactory academic progress as defined by individual department and program academic requirements.
- Financial support may be a combination of external fellowships, internal fellowships and assistantships. MIT's funding commitment is secondary to any external funding commitments. MIT may supplement qualified external awards up to the applicable department rate for that academic year. Reach out to Laurie Ward for more information.

## Health Fees / Student Health Plan

Most services at MIT Medical are included with tuition. This includes Primary Care, Urgent Care, Student Mental Health and Counseling Services, tests processed in MIT Medical's onsite radiology and laboratory services, and visits to most MIT Medical specialists.

Full-time students are also automatically enrolled in the MIT Student Health Insurance Plan (MIT SHIP), which provides comprehensive coverage and meets state health insurance requirements. Students may waive this coverage with comparable insurance. The plan starts on September 1st and runs through August 30th of the following year. Additional details can be found here: <https://medical.mit.edu/health-plans>.

Students can optionally enroll in MIT's graduate student dental plan at their personal expense: <https://medical.mit.edu/gsdp>

## Important Dates in 2023

A full list of important dates can be found on the academic calendar: <https://registrar.mit.edu/calendar>

- **April 15:** Decision Deadline
- **August 26-31:** Move-In and Orientation
  - We recommend that incoming students arrive in the Cambridge/Boston area no later than Saturday, August 26.
  - MIT's Graduate Student Orientation will begin on Sunday, August 27. You will receive more information as plans are solidified for MIT's extensive, mostly optional, orientation activities during the last week of August.
  - HST will organize a formal orientation session sometime during the week of August 27; we will let you know when that date is confirmed.
- **September 6:** MIT Registration Day and likely First Day of Classes at HMS
- **September 7:** First Day of Classes at MIT

## Handbooks

- HST PhD Academic Requirements Handbook: <https://hst.mit.edu/phd-academic-requirements-handbooks>
- MIT's Code of Academic Integrity: <http://integrity.mit.edu/>
- MIT's Code of Conduct is detailed in the Mind and Hand Book: <https://handbook.mit.edu/intro>
- MIT's Rules and Regulations of the faculty: <https://facultygovernance.mit.edu/faculty-rules-page>

## Community Resources

- MIT Values Statement: <https://www.mit.edu/values/>
- IMES Vision and Values: <https://imes.mit.edu/about/vision-values>
- IMES Diversity, Equality, Inclusion and Justice Statement: <https://imes.mit.edu/about/diversity-equality-inclusion-and-justice-deij>

MIT's resources and commitment against bias, discrimination, harassment, and sexual and related misconduct:

- <https://idhr.mit.edu/>
- <https://commitments.mit.edu/>