



Pinkie Gordon Lane Graduate School

Graduate Assistant Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP)

To improve the student quality of life, increase competitiveness of its graduate programs, support its undergraduate teaching mission, and enhance its mission to produce top-tier scholarship, LSU has partnered with UnitedHealthcare to provide an affordable health insurance plan for Graduate Assistants (GAs) in which LSU will cover 75% of the total premium cost. The health insurance plan is a student plan and does not provide any coverage for family members, and any options to enroll family members will have to be discussed outside of the LSU student health insurance plan.

All GAs (domestic and international) who meet the eligibility criteria listed below, will automatically be enrolled and assessed the premium (by term) for the student health insurance plan. The GA will receive credit on their student account for 75% of the premium that will be covered by LSU. The GA will be responsible for the remaining 25%. The amounts will appear on the student's charges for that term.

2026 – 2027 Coverage Periods and Rates					
Graduate Assistants and Fellows					
Premiums	Dates of Coverage	Waiver Deadline	LSU Portion	Student Portion	Total
Fall	08/14/2026 – 01/05/2027	09/11/2026	\$1,155.75	\$385.25	\$1,541.00
Spring Only	01/06/2027 – 05/21/2027	01/29/2027	\$1,084.63	\$361.55	\$1,446.18
Spring/Summer	01/06/2027 – 08/13/2027	01/29/2027	\$1,754.25	\$584.75	\$2,339.00
Summer	05/22/2027 – 08/13/2027	TBD	\$669.75	\$223.25	\$893.00

Eligibility Criteria

1. GAs appointed for at least 50% FTE
2. Students must be enrolled full-time to be eligible and automatically enrolled
 - a. Fall/Spring Semester: 9 hours with 6 hours at graduate level
 - b. Summer Semester: 6 hours with 3 hours at graduate level
3. International students are automatically enrolled
4. Fellows are eligible but are not automatically enrolled – they must opt into the insurance plan if they desire

Waive Insurance Plan

Students may choose an alternate plan and request to be considered for a waiver of the LSU SHIP. The alternate plan must meet LSU's requirements, and the waiver request must be submitted by the semester deadline date. **Waivers must be submitted each term.** The student health insurance plan is non-refundable and cannot be prorated or end early. To request the waiver, follow the steps listed below.

1. Go to www.gallagherstudent.com/lsu-batonrouge.
2. Follow the login Instructions.
3. Click "Waive" under 'Plan Summary'.
4. You will need your health insurance information.
5. Follow the instructions to complete the form.

Fellows Health Insurance

Eligible fellows are not automatically charged insurance but may "opt-in" to the insurance with the same rates as the Graduate Assistants and the same 75% exemption. Correspondence will be sent to the eligible students by the Pinkie Gordon Lane Graduate School at the beginning of each semester.

International Student Requirements

All non-immigrant international students in F and J student visa status are required to purchase and maintain adequate medical health insurance and repatriation/medical evacuation coverage while they're enrolled at LSU. F and J visa students will be automatically charged for and enrolled in the LSU SHIP. All non-immigrant international students in F and J student visa status are required to maintain these coverages while they are enrolled at LSU. These benefits are included in the LSU Student Plan (SHIP).

If you are an F visa status holder, and your private medical health insurance policy does not include these required benefits, you must purchase these benefits separately. One option is to purchase the [Emergency Travel Assistance Plan](#) through Gallagher by following the instructions below. The policy is effective for one full year.

1. Go to [Emergency Travel Assistance Plan](#) website.
2. Create an account.
3. Select Return Home on the left-hand toolbar.
4. Scroll down and click on Enroll Now.
5. Complete the form with your information and payment.

Insurance for J visa status holders is monitored by International Services. The International Services Office will notify you by email if your private plan does not include these benefits. More information on the F and J visa student requirements can be found [here](#).

Other Notes

1. Incoming GAs can be added on a rolling basis, and waiver deadlines will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
2. Those international students who will not attend class during the summer can be offered a Spring-Only health insurance policy with the **ISO department's approval**.
3. Continuing GAs in the Spring will be automatically enrolled in and assessed the Spring/Summer premium.
4. Students graduating in the spring, **with a diploma fee assessed to the student's account**, must contact the Bursar's Office to have their Spring/Summer policy voided and Spring-Only coverage assigned. Contact Bursar Operations at bursar@lsu.edu **by the 14th class day** if you are graduating and see the Spring/Summer premium charged to your account. If, for any reason, you do not graduate and you return in the summer, you will be assessed Summer insurance.

Questions can be sent to the Graduate School at gradinsurance@lsu.edu .