

# Resources for Graduate Students

**The University offers many resources to students that may make it possible to successfully complete the current semester.**

## Academic Support Services

The [Writing Center](#) and the [Academic Achievement Center](#) both offer academic support to graduate students. The Writing Center provides [support to grads](#), including online writing assistance. The Academic Achievement Center (AAC) offers an array of academic support services, including coaching, mentoring, and student success workshops. Although many of the offerings are geared toward undergraduate students, graduate students can contact the AAC directly to discuss specific support needs and will be referred to available resources.

## Academic or Faculty Advisor

A student's major advisor is a resource in navigating academic challenges. Some academic departments also have program staff that can help you determine next steps academically and connect you to resources. If you are a graduate student, make sure you discuss all possible options with your advisor. If you aren't sure who your advisor is, you can find this information in [StudentAdmin](#).

## Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD)

The [CSD](#) engages in an interactive process with students in order to determine appropriate accommodations as well as other University services that may be helpful. The interactive process simply means that the CSD, students with disabilities, and faculty and staff from across the University will work together to determine appropriate accommodations in order to provide access to University programs.

Through the interactive process, the CSD will:

- Request and gather information and documentation related to your condition to understand how it impacts your functioning, including learning or living at UConn;
- Obtain your self-report about the difficulties or limitations of your condition and the specific accommodations you are requesting;
- In consultation with you, identify and consider potential accommodations that will provide equal access to your program, including the learning and living environments;
- Notify your teaching professionals and other University departments as indicated of your approved accommodations.
- Work with you, your instructors and other University staff to coordinate your accommodations as indicated.

This interactive process starts with the student by registering with the CSD through the student [MyAccess portal](#).

## Course Instructors

Students can speak with their course instructor to discuss options within the course, such as opportunities to make up work or extra time on an assignment, as well as the possibility of an Incomplete grade.

- A student who has not completed all of the assessments but is currently passing the class may request an Incomplete from their instructor. A make-up schedule for the remaining work must be set with the instructor.
- Per the [Graduate Catalog](#), graduate students have up to one year from the time the grade was originally due to resolve an Incomplete, though the instructor may choose to set a shorter timeline.
- Unlike undergraduate Incompletes, graduate Incompletes do not lapse to an "F" if unresolved.

- Please be aware that an Incomplete, or any other grade that does not indicate successful completion of a course, may affect any financial aid that you may receive for a current or future semester. Please see information about [Satisfactory Academic Progress](#) and [Academic Engagement](#) and connect with the Office of Student Financial Aid Services if you have any questions by emailing [financialaid@uconn.edu](mailto:financialaid@uconn.edu) or calling (860) 486-2819.
- A course may be converted to an [Audit](#), provided the final exam has not been taken. The course will appear on the transcript as a “WAU.”

## The Graduate School

The Graduate School’s Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Affairs team provides direct one-on-one support to students and can be an excellent resource in navigating any challenges you may be facing. If you would like to discuss your situation with them, please [visit our website](#) to view contact information.

## Student Health and Wellness (SHaW)

[SHaW](#) supports the optimal well-being of UConn students by providing the highest quality compassionate care. SHaW provides medical, mental health and wellness services to promote students’ emotional, relational, and academic potential. Storrs graduate students who pay the SHaW fee may access SHaW mental health services by calling 860-486-4705 or scheduling a screening [appointment online](#). SHaW mental health services include:

- Rapid access screening appointments
- Emergency/Crisis assessment
- Individual and group therapy
- Medication management
- Mindfulness/Meditation/Yoga workshops
- Referral and off-campus support services

Regional campus graduate students seeking mental health resources can find [campus specific contact information](#) on SHaW’s webpage.

## Student Behavioral Health Services (SBHS)

The Student Behavioral Health Service (SBHS) provides evaluation and treatment to medical, dental and graduate students at UConn Health. To learn more about the resources available, visit the SBHS [website](#).

## Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs

Veterans, current service members, and military affiliated students are encouraged to connect with the [Office of Veterans Affairs and Military Programs](#). Their staff ensures the specific needs of veterans and service members at UConn are being addressed, and this office can be an excellent resource in navigating any challenges you may be facing.

## Pregnancy and Pregnancy-Related Conditions

UConn’s Title IX Coordinator within the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) can coordinate supportive measures and other response options, including investigations, and facilitate modifications for pregnancy and related conditions to ensure continued access. The Title IX Coordinator can be reached at [equity@uconn.edu](mailto:equity@uconn.edu), 860-486-2943 (Main), or 860-679-3563 (UCH). Additional resources include OIE’s [Pregnant and Parenting Resources for Graduate Students](#) and the [Student Parents](#) webpages.

## Ombuds Office

Cinnamon Adams, Assistant Ombuds, serves as a neutral resource who provides confidential and informal assistance to graduate students and other employees in the UConn Community. Cinnamon can listen to graduate student concerns, provide information about University policies, help graduate students evaluate their situations, and assist graduate students in making plans to address the issues or conflicts. Contacting the Ombuds is completely voluntary and graduate students choose the course of action that is best suited for their interests. If you would like to meet with Cinnamon, you can find her contact information on the [Ombuds Office](#) webpage.

## Emergency Funding/Food Assistance

The Graduate School's [Emergency Funding](#) page includes information about the [Graduate Student Senate Short-Term Emergency Loan](#) program, the [Students First Fund](#), and [food resources](#) near Storrs and throughout Connecticut, including [Husky Harvest Food Pantries](#) and UConn Swipes, which provides students who are food insecure and/or who are experiencing an emergency situation access to healthy and well-balanced meals in our campus dining halls.

## Graduate Assistant Leave and/or Employee Accommodations

Graduate Assistants should be in touch with the HR Leave and Accommodation team to inquire as to whether they are entitled to any benefits, including but not limited to, a GA medical leave of absence and/or an employee accommodation. More information about GA leave, as well as contact information for the HR Leave and Accommodation team, can be found on HR's [website](#).

## Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

Available to Graduate Assistants, [EAP](#) is a free and confidential service that provides private assessment, brief counseling and/or referrals for additional services to assist with personal and/or work-related problems that could potentially impact job performance, health, mental and emotional well-being. Such concerns, amongst others, may include stress, financial issues, legal issues, family problems, office conflicts, and alcohol or substance abuse. EAP also works with supervisors and managers to provide proactive planning for, and intervention in, situations such as organizational changes and in response to traumatic events.

## Academic Leave of Absence

An academic leave of absence is a temporary separation from the university, which holds your place in your program. It requires both advisor and department head approval. Academic leave is processed through The Graduate School. Students interested in exploring this option should initiate a [Voluntary Separation Notification](#) (VSN) form. Initiating a VSN form does not commit you to taking academic leave; it simply allows The Graduate School to provide you with a detailed overview of what the implications of academic leave would be so that you can make an informed decision about whether you wish to pursue this option. Detailed information on academic leave, as well as other enrollment options when not engaged in coursework, can be found on The Graduate School's [voluntary separations](#) page and questions can be directed to [gradseparation@uconn.edu](mailto:gradseparation@uconn.edu).

**If you don't see the type of support you're looking for listed above, please reach out to The Graduate School's [Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Affairs team](#) for additional assistance.**