

**Guidelines for Doctoral Training Programs Based at  
The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
The University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT USA  
For Students Sponsored by  
The China Scholarship Council, Beijing, People's Republic of China**  
Updated January 3, 2012

These guidelines concern academic programs to provide opportunities for students from Chinese Universities (hereby referred to as Sending Universities) to pursue doctoral study and earn Ph.D. degrees at the University of Connecticut's (herein referred to as UConn) College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (herein referred to as CANR) with funding from the China Scholarship Council (herein referred to as CSC) and UConn/CANR. **The guiding concept for this arrangement is to supplement CSC funding to bring the student to at least a full graduate assistantship level II at UConn and to cover tuition and health benefits.**

- 1) **Application:** Applications are to be considered for fall semesters only. To comply with CSC and UConn procedures, the following timeline will be observed: November through February: A student from a Sending University contacts a potential advisor/Department at UConn/CANR; if the advisor/Department is interested in accepting the student, he or she is encouraged to officially apply to UConn; if the student is accepted by the Graduate School, the Department Head writes a letter to CSC in support of the student's application stating the UConn/CANR financial support (items 3, 4 and 5 below) to supplement CSC support. March: The student and the Sending University submit the student's application to CSC. April/May: CSC notifies the student of the sending university and the CSC financial support documents are sent to UConn requesting official admission and visa documents. August: The student arrives at UConn/CANR to start the Ph.D. program.
- 2) **Enrollment:** There is neither a minimum nor a maximum number of students who may enroll in UConn/CANR Ph.D. programs under this arrangement. Normally, the Ph.D. program should be completed within five years. Extension beyond this is considered on a case by case basis by the Department.
- 3) **Fees:** UConn/CANR will provide tuition remission. Students in this program are subject to all non-tuition fees including application and registration fees as well as housing, as is standard for all students receiving graduate assistantship funding.
- 4) **Living Expenses:** CANR Departments or sponsoring faculty members will provide a stipend corresponding to a level II 50% time graduate assistantship. This is in addition to the stipend provided by the CSC. Housing costs, including early and late arrivals, will be the sole responsibility of the student. Housing arrangements can be made through the Department of Residential Life at UConn.
- 5) **Health Insurance:** UConn or CANR Departments or faculty members sponsoring a student under this program will pay for the cost of required health insurance.
- 6) **Rules, Regulations and Policies:** Each student is accountable and subject to all academic policies and standards of conduct of the Graduate School and the relevant doctoral program.
- 7) **Visa permits:** Initial visa information will be provided by the Graduate School and will be maintained by the Department of International Services and Programs for the duration of the student's stay. Students will be required to obtain the appropriate visa, in most cases an F-1 visa.
- 8) **Work:** Students are held accountable to the work constraints of their visa guidelines. Normally, departments are allowed to provide summer graduate assistantships, summer special payroll employment, and fellowships related to the student's training.

*An example for the 2011-12 academic year: the selected CSC students received a stipend of approximately \$10,198 via a 50% GA plus approximately \$12,700 from the CSC, for a total combined stipend of approximately \$23,000/year. In addition, these students received a health benefit package plus tuition waiver (unless tuition payment was allowed by a grant).  
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