

Graduate Education Report: Implementation Planning

As of Feb. 27, 2026; subject to change

Provost Karen Marrongelle hopes to move several recommendations from the Graduate Education Working Group's [Dec. 2025 report](#) directly toward implementation and has identified others as warranting additional feedback prior to implementation.

Proceeding Toward Implementation

Faculty Fellows will gather feedback on these recommendations during implementation:

| Topic | Rollout Date | Feedback requested |
|--|---|---|
| A central Graduate Studies Office will be (re)established to support, advise, and ensure consistency across programs. | Functional by Aug. 2026 | Staffing needs, budgetary needs, exact duties, structure and composition of document repository |
| The Graduate Council , reflecting all programs, will update its scope of responsibilities and members. | Ongoing with changes and updates rolling out summer/fall 2026 | Constitution and bylaws, exact duties, authority, composition, and procedures |
| Graduate Faculty Appointments will be clarified and tracked. | Aug. 2026 | Review, process, maintenance responsibilities |
| New Graduate Student Orientation will be redesigned. | Early Aug. 2026 | Program needs, interplay with other new-student activities |
| Tuition Remission (initiated w/one-time funding) will be available for grad students in academic employment roles. | Late 2026 (to support students starting in 2027) | Exact rollout mechanism |

Topics for Additional Feedback

Faculty Fellows will gather feedback on these recommendations prior to implementation:

| Topic | Stakeholders to be Consulted |
|---|---|
| Policies ¹ on student academic issues: including appeals, probation/suspension, DFWI, course repeats, leave of absence, academic progress, program dismissal | Deans, Program Directors, Registrar |
| Policies on program requirements, completion timelines | Program Directors |
| Policies on graduate exams and committees | Deans, Program Directors |
| Processes (centralized vs. decentralized) regarding Graduate Studies Office duties | Deans, Program Directors/Staff, Pam Toney+ Admissions Team, UCC, Grad Council |
| Processes regarding student employment | Program Directors, Chairs, Deans, HR |
| Processes regarding tuition remission | Program Directors, Chairs, Deans, Bursar's Office |
| Allocation of annual central funding for PhD programs | Deans, Program Directors, Budget |

¹ Policies, in many cases, will represent a "minimum campuswide standard," from which programs may apply their own tailored standard to suit their circumstance.

