

K-State Graduate School

Weekly Newsletter

July 14, 2020 [Events and Deadlines](#)

This newsletter is distributed to department heads, graduate program directors, graduate program contact staff, and graduate faculty.

Graduation and Commencement Deadlines

Fall commencement will occur November 23rd at 5:00 pm. The Graduation and Commencement Deadlines calendar on the Graduate School website is pending an update.

Graduate School Orientation Modules

The Graduate School is developing Canvas modules to provide new graduate students the information that is normally shared at our in-person orientation sessions at the start of the fall and spring semesters. We will inform graduate programs and directly notify students when the modules are accessible.

CollegeNet Offline for Updates

Please note that CollegeNET servers will be down for maintenance beginning 5:00 AM PST Saturday, July 18 and ending midnight PST Sunday, July 19. During this time, you will not have access to CollegeNET.

Graduate Faculty

[New Rural/Regional U.S. Scholar Award through the Australian-American Fulbright Commission](#)

The Australian-American Fulbright Commission is pleased to announce a new U.S. Scholar award focusing on rural and regional issues that would be of particular interest to Kansas State University. **Applications are open until September 15, 2020.** For more information, [visit the Fulbright Scholar Award website](#).

Graduate Students

[Sprintax](#) - Free Tax Preparation for International Students

International students & scholars are required to file tax forms with the IRS. There are 4 weeks to go now until the filing deadline of July 15th! Kansas State University has arranged free access to [Sprintax Tax Preparation](#) for you. Sprintax will guide you through the tax preparation process, arrange the necessary documents and check if you are due a tax refund. Failure to file can sometimes lead to complications when applying for US visas in the future.

All you need to do is:

1. [Register](#) with Sprintax
2. Complete the online questionnaire
3. Enter your unique code **SpTx2019KSU501F** in the box on the 'Review your order' page
4. Sprintax will prepare your tax return
5. Print, sign and mail your documents to the IRS

[SciComm 2020 online conference with FREE registration](#)

SciComm 2020 will be held online from August 14-16, 2020. This conference is dedicated to understanding and promoting effective communication of science to diverse audiences – including students of all levels as well as the general public – across all venues. Hosted by University of Nebraska-Lincoln's School of Biological Sciences, the conference will be run on Zoom.

July 24 – deadline to submit proposals for talks

August 1 – registration deadline

GRA/GTA/GA Student Employee Health Insurance for 2020-2021

Information is available on the Human Capital Website at the following link: <https://www.k-state.edu/hcs/benefits/health/gradhealth.html>. GRA/GTA/GA health insurance information will also be available in the online Graduate School Orientation in Canvas. A brochure was sent to all Department Heads and graduate program contacts via the Listserv system.

GRA/GTA/GA on 0.5 FTE appointments are eligible to **enroll in the health plan beginning August 1st**. Students must enroll online and can access the enrollment form on the link above.

Students must pay the cost of the premium at the time of enrollment. Human Capital Services must verify their eligibility; thus it is important that appointment forms be processed for fall semester as soon as your HCS Liaison has all

information needed. A link to United Healthcare Insurance Company is provided in the link above, including deductible and other important information.

Graduate Assistant positions in Staley School of Leadership Studies

- **K-State's Strengths Initiative and Co-Curricular Programs**

The graduate assistant will support the Strength's initiative to increase engagement and well-being for students across the university. This position assists the program director by executing programming, logistics, promotion, and communications for K-State's Strengths initiative. Learn more and [apply online](#).

- **Snyder Leadership Legacy Fellows and Co-Curricular Programs**

The graduate assistant supporting the Snyder Leadership Legacy Fellows program at the Staley School of Leadership Studies will assist the administrator of student programs with leadership development programming, logistics, promotion, and communications for the Snyder Fellows program. Learn more and [apply online](#).

AAAS Mini-CASE Webinar Recording

A video recording of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Mini-CASE webinar that was held on June 4 is available on [YouTube](#). The webinar focused on S&T policy during COVID-19. The video can be viewed on YouTube and on the [AAAS Twitter account](#).

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