GSAS Lease Guaranty Program, 2020-2021

The Graduate School of Arts & Science (GSAS) is pleased to announce its Lease Guaranty Program. The program began as a pilot program for entering MacCracken students in 2001-02, and eligibility was soon expanded to many fully-funded, continuing GSAS doctoral students. The Lease Guaranty Program was developed in response to concerns expressed by our students, many of whom prefer to live in off-campus housing that landlords may be reluctant to rent to students. Under this Program, the University will guarantee up to twelve months of rent under an appropriate lease as an inducement to landlords to rent to GSAS students.

For information regarding criteria, please see below. To receive the application form and further instructions, please email the Office of Academic and Student Affairs at gsas.studentaffairs@nyu.edu.

What are the criteria for applying to participate in the Lease Guaranty Program?

- Entering doctoral students supported on the MacCracken Program, enrolling for the first time in Fall 2020, are eligible to apply.
- Continuing, fully-funded GSAS doctoral students who are within the first six years of enrollment in their doctoral programs are also eligible to apply. Students enrolled in the Institute of Fine Arts, the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, the Center for Data Science, or the programs in Tisch, Sackler, and Environmental Health Sciences are not eligible to participate in the Lease Guaranty Program.
- Students must be in good standing with the Bursar’s Office to be eligible to apply.
- Students may apply to participate in the Lease Guaranty Program more than once. The term of each lease may be one or two years, but no more, and in any event, the Guaranty will be limited to the sum of 12 monthly rent payments at a time as set forth in the Guaranty.
- The applicant must plan to be enrolled full time for both the Fall and Spring semesters of the 2020-2021 academic year.
- Continuing student applicants must meet the Graduate School’s academic progress standards. In addition, the Director of Graduate Studies from the applicant’s program must verify that the applicant is in good academic standing and meets all program requirements. Moreover, the applicant must not have indicated an intention to refuse a portion of his or her financial aid award, or to leave the program prematurely (without receiving the Ph.D.).
- Additional parties on the lease, other than the spouse of a married student or an eligible domestic partner must also be fully funded GSAS doctoral students.
- Each student whose rent is guaranteed must sign an Indemnity Agreement, which is a legally binding promise to reimburse the University for any amount paid to the landlord under the guaranty and any other cost or expense incurred by the University as a result of the guaranty.
- Space in the Lease Guaranty Program is limited and not all requests may be approved. Applications will be evaluated on a first come-first served basis regardless of whether they have already participated in the Program or not. Some applicants may be placed on a waitlist. Waitlist applicants will be reviewed in order, based upon the date the application was submitted.
- The applicant must complete a Lease Guaranty Program application and present a valid (unsigned) lease on or before September 15, 2020. The beginning date of the lease may not be earlier than June 1, 2020.
- The applicant must be able to show that the rent is reasonable and appropriate in light of the applicant’s financial circumstances. Reasonable and appropriate rent is determined by the Graduate School of Arts & Science.
- All applications shall be considered on a case-by-case basis and may or may not be approved in the discretion of the Graduate School of Arts & Science.

Who should be contacted with questions?
Questions should be directed to the Office of Academic and Student Affairs at gsas.studentaffairs@nyu.edu or 212-998-8060.

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1 Students who have received internal or external dissertation completion fellowships for their sixth year are eligible to apply.