Stipend Ceiling Increased to $20,000 for Visiting Scholars and Visiting Student Researchers

Effective July 10, 2018, the Vice Chancellor for Research has authorized an increase in the stipend ceiling for Visiting Scholars and Visiting Student Researchers from $10,000 to $20,000 for any twelve-month period. The $10,000 limit has been in place for many years and no longer reflects the level of cost amelioration originally intended. Stipend payments are not a form of compensation, rather, they are designed to offset travel, living, and/or research costs affiliates incur during their appointment at Berkeley.

Currently, faculty sponsors who wish to offer stipends in excess of $10,000/year are required to submit letters of exception that must be endorsed by either the Vice Chancellor for Research, or the Vice Provost for the Faculty. Raising the limit to $20,000 acknowledges the increased costs that visiting researchers experience, particularly those associated with housing. The increase will also greatly reduce the volume of stipend exception letters, speeding up the appointment process and saving valuable staff time.

Annual stipend awards over $20,000 will be subject to the same exception request and approval process currently in place.

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