

MEMO: Status of Students Pursuing Coterminal Master's Degrees for Academic Year 2020-21

Background: The coterminal degree program permits undergraduates to work towards a master's degree while concurrently completing their bachelor's degrees(s) in the same or a different field of study. Given the interim rules and policies established for Academic Year 2020-21 as a result of the pandemic, the following guidelines will aid in determining coterminal student status for the purpose of enrollment, housing, and on-campus research.

Undergraduate vs. Graduate Status: Coterminals in the undergraduate tuition group are considered undergraduate students with respect to academic policies. Likewise, coterminals in the graduate tuition group are considered graduate students for the purpose of academic policies. For more information about tuition groups, when tuition groups can switch (from undergraduate to graduate), and instructions on how to check which tuition group a student is in, please visit the [Coterm Tuition Assessment](#) website. Additional policy guidance is available in [GAP 4.2.1 Coterminal Degrees](#).

Flex term and Tuition Free Units for Undergraduates: For Academic Year 2020-21, undergraduate students are eligible for 1 Flex term during which they are eligible to enroll in up to 5 tuition-free units and to participate in undergraduate experiential learning opportunities funded by Stanford. Only coterminal students in the undergraduate tuition group will be eligible for these opportunities.

On-campus Residence: Coterminals in the undergraduate tuition group are only eligible to be in residence during the quarters in which their cohort is permitted to be present. Coterminals in the graduate tuition group are eligible to apply for graduate housing and reside on campus throughout the year.

Participation in On-Campus Research: Only undergraduates residing on campus for Autumn quarter 2020-21 are able to participate in a research opportunity in a building in which the research can be conducted safely, this requires faculty and School approval. This policy will be revisited for future quarters. Graduate students residing on or off campus are able to participate in research opportunities required for their graduate degree in buildings approved for use following the current county and University guidelines.

Leave of Absence Policy for Coterminals: All coterminal students wishing to file for a leave of absence (LOA) must use the coterminal LOA e-form to do so. Coterminals should discuss

any plans for LOA with an undergraduate or cotermin advisor and also their cotermin masters department. International cotermins should also discuss LOA plans with the [Bechtel International Center](#).

For undergraduate students (non-cotermins) and cotermin students in the undergraduate tuition group, any leave of absence taken during Academic Year 2020-21 **will not be** counted against a student's allowable 8 quarters of leave.

For cotermin students in the graduate tuition group, any leave of absence taken during Academic Year 2020-21 **will be** counted against a student's allowable 8 quarters of leave.