

Procedures for Scholarship and Fellowship Payments to Foreign Nationals

International Tax Office MSN 4B2 Tel: (703) 993-5223 E-mail: inttax@gmu.edu

- Departments should ensure that its scholarship recipients follow outlined procedures properly
- "Scholarships," "Fellowships," "Grants," "Participant Support allowance" or "Stipends" have interchangeable meaning in this policy.

NOT WITHHOLDABLE AND NOT REPORTABLE SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS:

- Qualified scholarships an amount paid and used for tuition and fees required for enrollment or fees required to attend an accredited educational institution and required course related fees, paid directly to the Student Accounts.
- ✓ **Foreign funded scholarships** scholarships from sources outside the United States and managed by the foreign payors.
- Scholarships to support educational activities outside of the U.S. paid by a resident of the United States to a nonresident alien who conducts his study, training, or research outside of the United States. Obtain <u>W-8Ben</u> form and <u>the Statement for</u> <u>Independent Educational Activities Performed outside of the United States</u>.
- Payments to residents for tax purposes (Students in DACA, TPS, and other immigration statuses that are not sponsored by the university). Please submit <u>W-9</u> form, copy of your immigration document, <u>Foreign National Information Form</u> here through the dynamic forms link.

WITHHOLDABLE AND REPORTABLE SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS - Scholarship payments for Nonresident Aliens are subject to the <u>withholding of tax</u> at 30% statutory rate (14% for F-1, J-1, M-1, or Q-1 visa holders), unless a tax treaty or an Internal Revenue Code exemption applies.

At the end of the calendar year, non-resident alien students will receive an <u>IRS Form 1042s</u> and must report all honorarium payments to the Internal Revenue Service.

- ✓ Nonqualified scholarships or fellowships an amount paid and used for anything other than tuition and required fees (travel, room, and board expenses, equipment and supplies not required for courses).
- Prizes/ awards an amount given to, or for the benefit of an individual based on his or her past accomplishment or activity.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO PROCESS SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENT TO FOREIGN NATIONAL

Foreign students receiving a scholarship payment from Mason should <u>make an appointment</u> with the International Tax Office before the payment can be approved.

The student is required to provide the following documents to the department or directly to the Tax Office via <u>dynamic forms link</u>:

- 1. Foreign National Information Form (paper format)
- 2. Copies of immigration documents
 - a. Passport page with passport number and expiration date.
 - b. Copy of visa.
 - **c.** Copy of <u>I-94</u> departure record.
 - *d.* Copy of stamped page in passport showing entry date and immigration status the inspector allowed the visitor to enter.
 - *e.* J-1 visa DS2019 form, F-1 visa I-20 form, F-1 OPT Employment Authorization Document, other applicable immigration form that proofs individual's immigration status.
- 3. IRS Tax Documents Complete and sign the IRS forms <u>W-8BEN</u> and/or <u>W-9</u>. The Tax Coordinator will determine the appropriate form needed when processing the payment. (If visitor knows his/her tax status, he/she may provide only the appropriate form).

Department is required to provide the following documents to support ANY scholarship request to foreign national:

- 1. Completed Workflow Scholarship Request or submit the Scholarship Payment Request (during Period of Non-Enrollment).
- 2. Award Letter.