

Department of Physics
4th-quarter Fellowship advisor policy
February 23, 2007

The Department of Physics normally gives a graduate student in their first and second years who is in good academic standing a 4th-quarter Fellowship (4QF) in the Summer quarter (see Physics Graduate Student Handbook). One of the requirements for a student to receive a 4QF is that the student has a 4QF faculty advisor.

1. The present policy applies to the choice of a 4QF advisor for all first and second year students requesting 4QF support.
2. A first or second-year student must choose a 4QF advisor **before** the Spring Annual review and this advisor will act as the temporary research/academic advisor for the student.
3. In order to act as a 4QF advisor, a faculty member must be able to convincingly show that there would be a good chance to support the student on a GRA beginning in the Autumn quarter of the student's third year if the decision were made to be the student's Ph.D. thesis advisor.
4. A faculty member is normally ineligible to serve as a 4QF advisor if he/she has students of third year and beyond who are supported by the department as GTAs for more than a total of two quarters in the academic year.

Note that if a student's choice for a 4QF advisor is rejected by the department in the context of this policy (i.e. items 3 and 4 above), the student will not be penalized and is free to make another choice of a 4QF advisor. In this case, it is strongly recommended that the student consult with the Vice Chair for Graduate Studies in choosing another faculty member as the 4QF advisor.