[COVID 19] [Fall 2021]: I am a new student. Can I defer admission?

No. "Deferral" has a very technical meaning and the NC University system is not granting deferrals in Fall 2021.

However, you are encouraged to re-apply for another semester if you were admitted for Fall 2021 but unable to attend. For details see: https://isso.uncc.edu/faqs/if-i-can%E2%80%99t-arrive-us-august-28th-can-i-defer-my-admission-offer-another-semester

A graduate program cannot guarantee that an admitted student who is unable to start in a given semester will be admitted when and if they reapply for a later semester. However, the probability is good the student would be accepted again.

(Some general information about our admission trends are here: Admissions Trends and Competitiveness)

If you are admitted Fall 2021, but circumstances force you to reapply for a later semester, do as follows:

1. Submit a second application by the priority deadline for your target semester (see https://cci.uncc.edu/academics/computer-science/masters-program/ms-admissions/deadlines).
2. In your statement of purpose letter add a short paragraph at the top of the letter indicating that you were admitted in the earlier semester and briefly describe why you were unable to enroll at that time.

For other alternatives, new students should also see the "Admitted Students" section of ISSO's FAQ https://isso.uncc.edu/resources/covid-19-updates-international-students-scholars/fall-2021-spring-2022-updates-faqs.

(For continuing students should see the "Continuing Students" section of the above FAQ).