

Graduate Assistantships

A limited number of graduate assistantships are available to qualified, full-time and part-time graduate students. Interested students should consult their department chairperson or graduate coordinator and the Office of Graduate Studies to determine the availability of assistantships and their own eligibility. Notification for the first round of awards will be made by May 15. Many assistantships become available after this date or at the beginning of spring semester. To be eligible to receive a graduate assistantship, the student must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Must be a fully matriculated, degree-seeking, graduate student; normally, certification students are not eligible, and provisionally accepted students are not eligible unless the provisions are removed before the semester begins. Exceptions must be approved by the graduate dean.
2. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 for current graduate students (if a graduating senior, the undergraduate GPA must be at least 2.8).
3. Must submit a statement of professional goals, three letters of recommendation (using the form provided by the Graduate Office).
4. Have applied for a graduate assistantship by April 15 to be eligible for a fall semester assistantship, or by October 15 for a spring semester assistantship.

Assignments are made by the department in which the assistantship is located and may involve part-time undergraduate teaching, participation in research projects, or other professional duties under faculty supervision. Applications are available in the Office of Graduate Studies.

Full-time graduate assistants, in return for 20 hours of assigned duties per week, receive tuition remission and a stipend of \$5,000 for the academic year and must be enrolled as full-time graduate students (9-15 credits). Half-time assistantships involving 10 hours per week of assignments also are available. For these, students enroll in six credits of course work and will receive tuition remission for those credits as well as a stipend of \$2,500 for the academic year. Full-time graduate assistants are not allowed to hold other on-campus employment simultaneously. Part-time graduate assistants may work on-campus a maximum of 10 hours per week in addition to holding an assistantship.

For maximum consideration for support, applications for the fall semester should be submitted by April 15, although some departments occasionally consider assistantship applications at later dates. Assistantships also are offered by the Academic Programs and Services Division, Residence Life and Housing, the Academic Computing Center, and other offices. Please contact these offices, the adviser and/or graduate coordinator of your academic program, or the Office of Graduate Studies for additional information.

Maintaining graduate assistantships requires students to demonstrate both satisfactory performance in meeting assigned hours, dates, and responsibility, as well as good academic standing.

Students holding graduate assistantships who fail to maintain good academic standing (minimum GPA of 3.0) will have their assistantships revoked or will not have them renewed. This policy includes courses taken during summer sessions. Departments also may stipulate higher academic standards for maintaining assistantships. Full-time graduate assistantships are given for a maximum of four semesters. Half-time assistantships may be granted for up to six semesters