

## **Graduate Assistantships**

In past practice every form of support for graduate students was called a Graduate Assistantship. That term is now used to refer exclusively to those positions housed in academics where the GA is mentored by a member of the academic staff in the school. These would be the Graduate Assistantships in the School of Education, Business, and Journalism/Mass Communication. The graduate students granted awards of assistantships to the Teaching and Learning Center and First Year Experience are considered to be academically-based and mentored by the home school for their degree program. Students are eligible for graduate assistantships provided they have a 3.0 GPA, remain in good academic standing and are enrolled full-time with at least 9 credit hours per semester.

Assistantships currently funded through the Graduate Deans office but not linked directly to academic programs will become *Graduate Student Employment Positions* at a rate of \$12.00/hour. An amount equivalent to 300 clock hours per semester will be transferred to the department accounts for payroll purposes. The system will work much like the current system for RA's where the funds will be credited to the student account and the student will be accountable for any remaining balance. Positions included in this category include the following:

- Registrar's office
- Graduate admissions
- Technology services
- 1 position within the CPRC
- The Buffalo Center
- International Studies/Studies abroad.

Departments that currently have self-funded Graduate Assistantships may continue to fund students from their budgets. These positions, however, are billed as *Graduate Student Support Staff*. The program may fund at a variable rate from \$12/hour up to full coverage for 9 credits of graduate tuition. (This would be \$20.70/hour.) These are not graduate assistantships. Currently such positions are found in the CPRC, Alumni Relations/Advancement and University Relations.

*Graduate Student Employment and Graduate Student Support Staff* may be selected from the graduate assistantship applicant pool using a locally determined interview and selection process. Supervisors may set their own standards for eligibility for these positions.

**Timeline:** This policy will be implemented on a pilot basis for the 2013-14 academic year.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Criteria for award</b>	<b>Grant</b>	<b>Where</b>	
<b>Graduate Assistant</b> Funding: Graduate Financial Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.0 GPA</li> <li>• Completed application</li> <li>• Enroll in at least 9 credits/semester</li> <li>• Devote 300 clock hours/semester to the Assistantship</li> <li>• 6 cr cap on summer assistantship</li> <li>• School-based interviews &amp; selection process once pre-screened</li> </ul>	Full tuition for 9 credit hours.	School of Education School of Business School of Journalism/Mass Communication	Processed through office of the Graduate Dean.
<b>Graduate Student Employment</b> Funding: dollar amount transferred to unit payroll from graduate financial aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locally determined</li> </ul>	\$12.00/hour for 300 clock hours /semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registrar</li> <li>• Tech services</li> <li>• Buffalo Center</li> <li>• Study Abroad/International Studies</li> <li>• Graduate Admissions</li> <li>• 1 CPRC position</li> </ul>	Processed through employing unit
<b>Graduate Student Support Staff</b> Funding: self-funded at rate locally determined with maximum at 20 hours/week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locally determined</li> </ul>	Rate \$12.00-\$20.70/hr Locally determined. Up to 300 clock hours /semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPRC self-funded</li> <li>• University relations self-funded</li> <li>• Alumni/Advancement</li> </ul>	Processed through employing unit
<b>Athletic Graduate Student Tuition Support</b> Funding: Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locally determined</li> </ul>	Amount of tuition coverage determined by athletics department	Athletics	Processed through Athletics & Financial Aid