

The University of Texas at Arlington

College of Science Assistantship Policy

In effect for Academic Year 2015-2016

Select graduate students at UT Arlington are eligible to participate in a fellowship program designed for doctoral degree seeking students which will afford them significantly reduced tuition.

Program Overview

There is a 5-year term limit for all College of Science (COS) BS-to-PhD and PhD students for any combination of doctoral fellowship funding through various Office of Research programs that includes, but is not limited to, the Enhanced GTA, the STEM GTA and STEM GRA, and the College of Science Assistantship GTA Programs.

During the 5-year term limit, the Office of Research will pay for the tuition fellowship of eligible College of Science Assistantship Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTA).

If a student's status is changed from College of Science GTA or Enhanced GTA to Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) (either temporarily or permanently), the student's stipend as a GRA must be equal to or greater than the larger of a) 75% of his/her GTA stipend or b) the department's GRA pay plan.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the doctoral student COS Assistantship, a doctoral degree seeking graduate student must:

- a. Be enrolled as a Ph.D.-level student or in a BS-Ph.D. track in the College of Science.
- b. Hold a Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) appointment for at least 50% time (employed 20 hours per week) at the University in an academic unit or in the College of Science.
- c. Maintain the 50%-time appointment (as described immediately above) for the entire semester.
- d. Be paid at least the minimum stipend amount required by the academic unit's GRA/GTA pay plan, but not less than an annualized rate (100% appointment basis) of \$48,000 (\$2,000 per month at 50% appointment) for students who have not taken comprehensive exams. Students who have passed comprehensive exams will not be paid less than an annualized rate (100% appointment basis) of \$49,333 (\$2,055 per month at 50% appointment).
- e. Maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.
- f. Be unconditionally admitted to a BS-Ph.D. or Ph.D. program.
- g. Be enrolled full time (9 hours in a long semester).

Exception #1: Students who have passed their comprehensive exams must enroll in at least 6 semester credit hours in a long semester.

Exception #2: Doctoral students in their final semester may enroll in a 3 hour dissertation course (7399).

Students for whom the following conditions apply are *ineligible* for the fellowships:

- a. prior enrollment as a graduate student for 14 or more long semesters AND more than 99 semester credit hours of doctoral study at UT Arlington
- b. on academic probation (i.e. having a GPA of less than 3.0).

Tuition Funding

- a. Doctoral students who have not yet passed their comprehensive examinations must be enrolled full time. In FY 15-16 these students will receive tuition support of \$3,523 for 9 semester credit hours.
- b. Doctoral students who have passed their comprehensive examinations must enroll in at least 6 semester credit hours until their final semester. In FY 15-16 post comprehensive exam students will receive tuition support of \$2,420 for 6 semester credit hours.
- c. In their final semester, doctoral students may enroll in a 3 hour dissertation course (7399). In FY 15-16 these students will receive tuition support of \$1,146 for 3 semester credit hours.

Further information regarding this program in AY 15-16 may be obtained by contacting the Office of Research or the Dean's Office for the College of Science.