

Teaching Assistantship

Graduate Teaching Assistants (TAs) are used in many Mechanical Engineering courses. TAs may run laboratory sessions, give classroom lectures, hold office hours, and grade coursework. A level 1 TA (100%) is required to average no more than 20 hours per week. A level 2 TA (75%) is required to average no more than 15 hours per week. A level 3 TA (50%) is required to average no more than ten hours per week on TA assignments. Please see the minimum salary per semester and year and the associated tuition benefit percentages:

SEMESTER*	MINIMUM SUPPORT AMOUNT FOR TUITION BENEFIT OF:		
	100%	75%	50%
Fall 2011	\$6,000	\$4,500	\$3,000
Spring 2012	\$6,000	\$4,500	\$3,000
Summer 2012	\$4,500	\$3,375	\$2,250
Fall 2012	\$6,250	\$4,688	\$3,125
Spring 2013	\$6,250	\$4,688	\$3,125
Summer 2013	\$4,688	\$3,516	\$2,344
Fall 2013	\$6,500	\$4,875	\$3,250
Spring 2014	\$6,500	\$4,875	\$3,250
Summer 2014	\$4,875	\$3,656	\$2,438
Fall 2014	\$6,750	\$5,063	\$3,375
Spring 2015	\$6,750	\$5,063	\$3,375
Summer 2015	\$5,063	\$3,797	\$2,531
Fall 2015	\$7,000	\$5,250	\$3,500
Spring 2016	\$7,000	\$5,250	\$3,500
Summer 2016	\$5,250	\$3,938	\$2,625
Fall 2016	\$7,250	\$5,438	\$3,625
Spring 2017	\$7,250	\$5,438	\$3,625
Summer 2017	\$5,438	\$4,078	\$2,719

Table 1.1

Grader

Graders are also used in courses to grade homework and have no contact with students. A Single Grader should work no more than 7 hours per week and is not eligible for Tuition Benefit. A Double Grader should work no more than 14 hours per week and will be eligible for Tuition Benefit at the 50% or 75% level, depending on the salary amount offered for the semester.

TA assignments are made by the faculty members teaching the course. If you are interested in working as a TA, it is required that you fill out a TA application. In some cases, the department will retain a few TA positions for new students entering the program.

Tuition Benefit Program

Students who are hired as TAs are eligible for the Graduate School's Tuition Benefit Program (TBP). In order to qualify for TBP, a student must be paid as a Teaching Assistant, Research Assistant, Graduate Assistant or Graduate Fellow at the minimum salary levels (listed in table 1.1). TBP will cover 100 percent, 75 percent or 50 percent of tuition and mandatory fees. Students are responsible for any additional charges (i.e., differential tuition, class fees, etc). TAs who are paid at the 100 percent level will be eligible for subsidized insurance through the Graduate School. The Graduate School will pay for 80 percent of the health insurance plan and the student will pay the remaining 20 percent. For more detailed information regarding TBP and the subsidized health insurance plan, please visit <https://gradschool.utah.edu/tbp/index.php>.

All eligible students may enroll in Tuition Benefit during the first week of each semester with the Graduate Advisor. Students will receive an email with the enrollment form and deadlines. It is imperative that students adhere to the TBP deadlines to ensure that their Tuition Benefit is processed. Failure to meet these deadlines will result in a student's Tuition Benefit being denied and they will be responsible for full payment of the semester tuition and mandatory fees.

International Teaching Assistantship Workshop

Students who are hired as a TA with a non-English native language, or have received their B.S. from a higher education institution outside of the U.S. or Canadian must attend an ITA workshop before they will be cleared to work. To register for the ITA workshop, you must be hired and then contact the Graduate Advisor at grad@mech.utah.edu. For more information about the ITA Program, please visit <https://gradschool.utah.edu/ita/index.php>.