

Assistantship Scholarships for Graduate Students

General Policy Statement

Graduate assistants (GAs) are, first and foremost, graduate students pursuing an education. The opportunity to work closely with faculty members and other students is an integral part of education. Graduate students who hold assistantships benefit educationally and professionally. Assistantship scholarships for graduate students provide outstanding students with financial resources to help in degree completion. Assistantships offer varying educational and professional benefits but, in general, one can expect to:

- gain further instruction in techniques in a preferred field
- hone research skills
- acquire pedagogical experience necessary for an academic career
- develop professional skills including leadership, interpersonal effectiveness, and performance evaluation
- have collegial collaboration with advisors

Meredith College awards a number of assistantships to qualified students each year. These scholarship awards are intended to help accomplish our educational mission as well as to supplement the academic and professional pursuits of our graduate students.

Objectives

Graduate Assistantship Scholarships are designed to:

- provide high quality teaching and research support, within a mentoring relationship, to faculty members in graduate programs
- provide graduate-level hands-on learning experiences through collaboration and direct supervision with experienced faculty
- provide financial support that enables on-time graduate degree completion and holistic focus within the student's discipline
- recruit outstanding and promising students to graduate study, with special attention to access and equal opportunity goals and policies

Eligibility for Appointment

Graduate assistantships at Meredith College involve some responsibilities that require assistants to be present on campus. Graduate assistants should not be instructors of record or at any time be solely responsible for any courses taught at Meredith College. At the time of appointment to a graduate assistantship, the student must:

- be admitted into a Meredith College graduate degree program and subsequently enrolled in the degree program where the graduate assistantship was assigned,
- satisfy the selection criteria for assistants established by the graduate degree program
- international students must have an F-1 visa on file with the college before the letter of appointment can be finalized. (F-1 visas are not required for students who are Canadian citizens.) Once obtained, a social security number must be provided to the college.

Application Process

To be considered for an assistantship scholarship, one must apply to and be accepted by a graduate degree program in the Department of Education, the Department of Nutrition Health & Human Performance, the Department of Psychology and Social Work, or the School of Business; complete the Graduate Assistantship Application; and submit accompanying materials as required by your program.

The application file will be considered complete when the applicant has:

- been admitted to a Meredith College graduate degree program
- submitted a complete Graduate Assistantship Scholarship Application form
- submitted a current resume
- submitted essay responses (as required by program)
- submitted two letters of reference addressing academic and/or professional performance (as required by program)

Contact your program's director, manager, or admissions counselor for more details about what materials should accompany your application. Applicants are strongly encouraged to initiate the application process at least three months prior to the assistantship application deadline.

Selection Process

The selection process for a graduate assistantship scholarship will be as follows:

- eligible students submit application materials to the appropriate Graduate Program Director.
- each open assistantship position will be considered by a Graduate Assistantship Committee designated by the department/school seeking to fill a vacant position. Graduate Assistantship Committee members review the pool of completed student applicant files and select top candidate(s).
- Top candidate(s) may be invited to interview with the committee.
- Graduate Assistantship Committee members evaluate interviewees and the Committee Chair contacts the selected candidate to extend an offer.
- If the offer is accepted, a confirmation letter of intent and a letter of appointment are created.

Types of Assistantships

Graduate assistantships at Meredith College typically involve a combination of research and teaching. Research assistants predominantly include assisting one or more faculty member(s) with academic research. Teaching assistants support classroom or other teaching-related experiences of the college. Each graduate program can provide additional details relevant to its graduate assistant position(s). Graduate Assistants should not be instructors of record or at any time be solely responsible for any courses taught at Meredith College.

Terms and Conditions of Assistantship Scholarship Awards

Graduate assistants will receive a Graduate Assistantship Scholarship per credit hour tuition adjustment for up to two academic years (Fall, Spring, and combined summer) while completing their graduate degree program provided that they fulfill work requirements as outlined below. The tuition adjustment will be $\frac{1}{2}$ the per credit hour tuition rate for the program of enrollment. All student fees are excluded from the Graduate Assistantship Scholarship. Graduate assistants are fully responsible for all student fees including but not limited to lab fees, program fees, internship fees, and international student fees.

Meredith College Nondiscrimination Statement

Meredith College does not discriminate in the administration of its educational and admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs or in access to its programs and activities on the basis of race, creed, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, gender, age, or disability.