

SAFS GRADUATE STUDENT FUNDING

FUNDING TYPES

Graduate students in SAFS may be funded in a variety of ways, including internal and external funding sources. Information on this page pertains only to SAFS-funded support.

RAS AND TAS

The majority of SAFS graduate students are funded as half-time (50%) research assistants (RA) paid from faculty research grants. Students may also be funded as half-time (50%) teaching assistants (TA) for assisting in an academic course – these appointments are paid on a SAFS budget.

RAs and TAs are Academic Student Employees (ASE) and are governed by an agreement between the UW and the United Auto Workers (UAW) outlined here: <https://hr.uw.edu/labor/unions/uaw/ase-contract>

SAFS FELLOWSHIPS

SAFS Fellowships are typically *merit-based awards* that support graduate students in pursuing their academic degree programs. They generally do not require work effort* as one might expect for an RA or TA appointment. Most SAFS Fellowships are awarded during the admission/recruiting process (all applicants are automatically considered). However current students may also apply for limited additional fellowship/scholarship funding if they did not receive a recruitment fellowship*.

Because fellowships are normally merit-based awards that are not in payment for any work-based service, funding levels and benefits may vary (depending on department and source of funds). They are not covered by a union contract in the same way that RAs or TAs are covered by the UAW/UW Academic Student Employee contract.

While the UW does not require fellowship awards to provide coverage of tuition and fees, SAFS general policy* is to administer Fellowship awards at the same rates and benefits as the standard RA or TA appointment.

Students supported on a SAFS Fellowship must meet the same eligibility as students supported on a RA or TA award (see “Eligibility & Enrollment” below).

**Exceptions may apply*

FUNDING SUPPORT

As of July 1, 2019, the standard RA, TA, and most SAFS Fellowships* include:

- Stipend, paid bi-monthly (for duration of appointment) at ASE salary rates
- Waiver/payment of the Operating Fee (both resident and non-resident portions)
- Waiver/payment of the Building Fee, Tech Fee, and U-PASS Fee†
- Health insurance through the Graduate Appointee Insurance Program (GAIP)

**SAFS Fellowship funding levels vary – some fellowships may not qualify for fee waivers or GAIP coverage. Refer to the offer letter for details on funding and benefit eligibility.*

†Students are personally responsible for paying any remaining fees

ELIGIBILITY & ENROLLMENT

To be eligible to be funded in an ASE position (at any FTE percentage) or on a fellowship with tuition/fee benefits students must:

- Be making satisfactory academic progress
- Maintain satisfactory work performance (ASE appointments)
- Enroll in a minimum of ten credits in autumn, winter, and spring quarters and in exactly two credits during summer quarter (students who wish to enroll in more than 2 credits in Summer quarter must have approval from their major professor and academic adviser).

SAFS ASE JOB TITLES & PAY RATES

Rates are current as of July 1, 2019 and will be updated as necessary.

<https://grad.uw.edu/graduate-student-funding/funding-information-for-departments/administering-assistantships/tara-salaries/>

JOB TITLE	PAY RATE	JOB DUTIES	QUALIFICATIONS
Reader/Grader	\$25/hour	Non-teaching/research academic assistance	Undergraduate or Graduate Student
Undergrad Teaching Assistant	\$16/hour	Assist in teaching	Undergraduate Student
Undergrad Research Assistant	Hourly Range (determined by hiring lab; must meet WA-State minimum wage)	Assist in research	Undergraduate Student
Teaching Assistant (TA)	\$2,460/month (50% FTE)	Teaching	Premaster
Predoctoral Teaching Associate I (PDTA I)	\$2,640/month (50% FTE)	Teaching	Postmaster or equivalent
Predoctoral Teaching Associate II (PDTA II)	\$2,830/month (50% FTE)	Teaching	Candidate
Predoctoral Instructor	\$4,245/month (PDTA II minimum; 75% FTE)	Teaching own class	Premasters, postmaster or Candidate
Research Assistant (RA)	\$2,460/month (50% FTE)	Research	Premaster
Predoctoral Research Associate I (PDRA I)	\$2,640/month (50% FTE)	Research	Postmaster or equivalent
Predoctoral Research Associate II (PDRA II)	\$2,830/month (50% FTE)	Research	Candidate
Summer Only- Graduate Research Student Assistant	Hourly Rate based on equivalent %FTE Rate*	Research	Graduate Student

**The GRSA Rate shall be calculated by multiplying the monthly salary for a %FTE Research Assistant by three and then dividing the product by 220.*

TAX WITHHOLDING INFORMATION

<https://isc.uw.edu/your-pay-taxes/withholding/>