

# SAFS ACADEMIC STUDENT EMPLOYEE (ASE) FUNDING

## FUNDING TYPES

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 for Academic Student Employees (ASE) and graduate fellowships.

### GRADUATE RAS AND TAS

The majority of SAFS graduate students are funded as half-time (50%) research assistants (RA), supervised by the student's SAFS faculty adviser and paid from SAFS faculty research grants. On occasion, RAs are paid from non-SAFS faculty budgets – in these instances, the grad student's SAFS faculty adviser will still be the RA supervisor. Students may also be funded as half-time (50%) teaching assistants (TA) for assisting in an academic course – these appointments are supervised by the course instructor and paid on a SAFS budget.

Graduate 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/academic-and-student-unions/uaw-ase/ase-contract>

### SAFS GRADUATE 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 find in an RA or TA appointment. Most SAFS Fellowships are awarded during the admission/recruiting process (all applicants are automatically considered) however continuing students may also apply for limited additional fellowship/scholarship funding.

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.

*\*Exceptions may apply*

### UNDERGRADUATE RAS AND TAS

Undergraduate RAs assist in or support research done in SAFS labs. Undergraduate TAs (aka Peer TAs) assist in or support teaching in SAFS courses. Funding for these positions come from a variety of research grants and administrative sources.

Undergraduate 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/academic-and-student-unions/uaw-ase/ase-contract>

## GRADUATE 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 admission 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 a graduate 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 faculty and academic adviser approval).

## SAFS ASE JOB TITLES & PAY RATES

Rates are current as of July 1, 2020 and will be updated as necessary.

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

JOB TITLE	PAY RATE	JOB DUTIES	QUALIFICATIONS
Reader/Grader	Graduate: \$25/hour Undergraduate: \$17/hour	Non-teaching/research academic assistance	Undergraduate or Graduate Student
Undergrad Teaching Assistant (UTA)	\$17/hour	Assist in teaching	Undergraduate Student
Undergrad Research Assistant (URA)	\$16.69/hour or higher (determined by hiring lab; must meet City of Seattle/WA-State minimum wage)	Assist in research	Undergraduate Student
Teaching Assistant (TA)	\$2,510/month	Teaching	Premaster
Predoctoral Teaching Associate I (PDTA I)	\$2,693/month	Teaching	Postmaster or equivalent
Predoctoral Teaching Associate II (PDTA II)	\$2,887/month	Teaching	Candidate
Predoctoral Instructor	\$2,830/month (PDTA II minimum)	Teaching own class	Premasters, postmaster or Candidate
Research Assistant (RA)	\$2,510/month	Research	Premaster
Predoctoral Research Associate I (PDRA I)	\$2,693/month	Research	Postmaster or equivalent

Predocctoral Research Associate II (PDRA II)	\$2,887/month	Research	Candidate
<b>Summer Only</b> - Graduate Research Student Assistant	Premaster: \$34.23/hour Intermediate: \$36.72/hour Candidate: \$39.37/hour  <i>Hourly Rate based on equivalent %FTE Rate*</i>	Research	Graduate

*\*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/>