

Teaching, Graduate, and Research Assistantships

A limited number of TA (Teaching Assistant), GA (Graduate Assistant) and RA (Research Assistant) positions are available for graduate students at the School of Social Work in increments of 5 to 20 hours a week.

Information about how to apply for the **Teaching Assistant and Graduate Assistant** positions will be mailed to you along with your acceptance packet, when you are accepted into the MSSW or Ph.D. programs. The steps for applying for a TA or GA position are also listed below. TA and GA selection decisions are made by the Student Financial Assistance Committee, which is chaired by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Dr. David Springer. The committee is made up of the Program Directors, the Assistant Dean for Finance, and the Director of Admissions and selects students using the criteria of merit and financial need. If you are selected for a TA or GA position, you will be contacted as soon as possible after the committee makes final decisions near the end of each semester for the following semester. For more information and questions about TA and GA positions, contact the Office of Admissions at (512) 471-7482.

Research Assistant position decisions will be made by the Center for Social Work Research and individual faculty members with funded research. For more information and questions about RA positions or to apply for an RA position, please contact Dr. Carol Lewis at the [Center for Social Work Research](#).

TA Application Steps

Ph.D. and MSSW Students

MSSW students fill out a School of Social Work Financial Aid Form (FAF) when they apply to the MSSW program. This form is included in the acceptance packet to be completed and returned to the Director of Admissions. It is kept on file for as long as the student is in the program.

Ph.D. students do not use the FAF form, but rather work directly with doctoral Program Director, Dr. Jim Schwab.

School of Social Work Faculty submit requests for a TA or GA to Dean Barbara White, and indicate whether they have a student in mind or want to continue with a previously assigned TA.

The Financial Assistance Committee (FAC) meets and goes over these requests. This is an iterative process, as the FAC attempts to match several converging areas: student financial need and merit; student interests and skill set; faculty need and interest; and so on. The Program Directors work from a list of students who need financial assistance, which is compiled from the application packets. The FAC makes recommendations to individual faculty members regarding who their assigned TA will be, using the criteria listed above.

Faculty without assigned TAs contact the Director of Admissions for remaining eligible names. Faculty then initiate contact with the student(s) they would like to consider for their TA. Upon selecting a student to work as their TA, the faculty member notifies the Assistant Dean for Finance so that the appointment can be processed.

BSW Students

Students apply for financial aid directly with UT's Office of Financial Aid. If awarded a work-study appointment, students should contact the BSW Program Director, Dr. Rowena Fong, by phone (512-471-5457) or by email (rfong@mail.utexas.edu). The BSW Program Director will notify the UT School of Social Work staff of eligible BSW work-study students. Students are also encouraged to contact the UT Work Study Coordinator in the Student Financial Services Office about other work-study placements on campus and attend the work-study fairs sponsored by the Work Study Program in the Student Financial Services Office. For more information, contact the UT Student Financial Services Work Study Program at (512) 475-6247.