

## **Goal of the BS-PhD Program**

The principal goal of the BS-PhD program is to prepare nurses with a PhD in nursing to address challenges in the health care environment through a program that emphasizes excellence in teaching, research, practice and service.

More specifically, this program will:

- Educate the next generation of nurse faculty and nurse researchers.

This program will:

- Match students with exceptional teaching, clinical and research faculty.
- Provide mentorships in teaching and research
- Expose students to innovative curriculum
- Provide involvement in nursing locally and globally

The College of Nursing offers an opportunity for approximately 5 funded graduate assistantships per year. Students will be appointed to a particular assignment based upon their experience and attained credits in their program of study (e.g. Teaching Assistantships, or Research Assistantships). Each assistantship will include full tuition waiver and fees. Teaching assistantships will be supervised by the Director of the BS-PhD program in coordination with the appropriate Associate or Assistant Dean, and research assistantships will be supervised by the Executive Director of the Research Center.

## **Criteria for the Funded Assistantships, Teaching and Research for the BS-PhD program**

1. BS-PhD students must be enrolled as a full time student (9-12 credits in the spring and fall; and 6 credits in the summer semester) and follow the designated 4-5 year program plan.
2. Students will be eligible for an assistantship for up to 4 years of study while working on their required coursework in the BS-PhD program.
3. Assistantships typically end during the dissertation phase of the program.
4. Working a minimum of 10 hours per week is required for an assistantship. Pending available assignments, students may work additional hours, however for the first year, students are advised to work 10 hours per week.
5. Depending on funding availability and the student's level of teaching and research experience, the hourly wage ranges from \$16-\$20 per hour. The approximate annual salary will be:
  - \$8,352-\$16,704 based upon 10-20 hrs (@ \$16/hr) per week
  - \$10,440-\$20,880 based upon 10-20 hrs (@ \$20/hr) per week

6. Students will be hired as a GTA and can progress to a GRA, if they meet the criteria.
7. If students work as a GRA, they are expected to participate on a research team as part of their required graduate research assistantship.
8. A program goal is to have students paid on research grants by the end of their third year.
9. GTAs must apply for the assistantships when accepted into the program. Notification of acceptance will occur after March of each year.
10. Upon acceptance into the program, students who are interested in GTA positions must complete the application process. Students will then be required to renew the application annually, before the beginning of each fall semester. Application documents are available at:  
<http://health.usf.edu/nocms/nursing/pdfs/GAOutlinApp.pdf>
11. GTAs are expected to report work activities. Activity logs may be used, if deemed applicable.
12. GTAs will be evaluated on their assigned work activities by the appropriate Program Director.
13. GTAs are eligible for health insurance benefits.
14. Each GTA shall be credited with five (5) days of paid leave per semester appointment. Such paid leave shall be used in increments of not less than one (1) day, and shall not be cumulative. (For example, a GTA scheduled to work six (6) hours on Monday and three (3) hours on Tuesday, who is unable to perform assigned duties on these days for any of the reasons described below, would be charged with two (2) days of leave, regardless of the number of work hours scheduled.) Leave can be used when:
  - a. GTA is disabled or otherwise unable to perform because of injury, illness, jury duty, required U.S. military service, or when unable to perform because the GTA's presence is required elsewhere because of injury, illness, or death in the immediate family. Immediate family shall consist of mother, father, spouse, sister, brother, child, a person in a legal dependent relationship with the GTA, or other relative living in the GTA's household.
  - b. Taking examinations for professional licensing related to the degree or qualifying examinations as required by the University.
  - c. Traveling to conferences or other events for professional development.