10 Most Frequently Asked Questions on Graduate Assistantships

1) What types of graduate assistantships exist for doctoral students?
Doctoral students can be appointed as Graduate Teaching Assistants or as Research Assistants dependent on College needs and/or student preparation and experience.

2) What is the amount ($) of funding available to me as a graduate assistant?
Funding can range from $8,352 to $20,880 annually dependent upon the number of hours worked per week.

3) What is the process and timeline for applying, notifying, and receiving financial aid?
- February 1 – Program Applications Due
- April – Notification of program acceptance or denial is sent to students
- April – After notification of program acceptance, students submit graduate assistantship application to program directors
- Prior to August start of classes – Students are notified of whether or not they are awarded a graduate assistantship.

4) How many hours would I work if awarded an assistantship?
Graduate Assistants normally work anywhere from 10-20 hours per week.

5) Will I be funded thru all years of my program?
Funding for graduate assistantships typically is available until a student's coursework is completed. Students will be expected to be funded by a grant during the dissertation stage. Graduate Assistantships will be continued pending favorable performance evaluations and overall College funding availability.

6) When will we receive notification of special scholarships issued through the College of Nursing?
In addition to graduate assistantships, the College of Nursing administers foundation based scholarships, traineeships, restricted scholarships, nurse faculty loans, and various other internal awards. Information on these sources of funding is sent to students each semester via their health email account.

7) What does the assistantship cover?
Students on graduate assistantship are paid a salary and are considered salaried employees. Graduate Assistants also receive a tuition waiver.

8) How many hours do I have to be enrolled in per semester to receive an assistantship?
9) **Do I have to apply for the stipend each year or is it automatically renewed?**
Graduate Assistantships will be continued pending favorable performance evaluations and overall College funding availability. Funding for graduate assistantships typically is available until a student’s coursework is completed. Students will be expected to be funded by a grant during the dissertation stage.

10) **Is a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) required? If so, is the FAFSA has to be completed every year?**
Yes. This must be completed every year.