

Guidelines for filling assistantship positions within the Molecular Biology, Microbiology and Biochemistry graduate program

According to the agreement between the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University and the SIUC Graduate Assistants United, IEA-NEA, dated July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2010, each Department or Unit is required to provide a statement of the guidelines used for filling assistantship positions as described in Section 5.2 of the contract.

Section 5.2 Research and Teaching Assistant Assignments. Within six (6) months of entering this Agreement, each department or unit that employs research assistant or teaching assistants shall create and make available to graduate students guidelines used for filling vacant assistantship positions within the department or unit.

Within the Molecular Biology, Microbiology and Biochemistry (MBMB) graduate program, the following guidelines will be employed.

1. Teaching Assistants (TAs): Only the Department of Microbiology in the MBMB program offers TAs. These assistantships are given to new incoming students or continuing students without a Research Assistantship. The requirements for these positions include:
 - a) Prior coursework or training appropriate to the teaching assignment,
 - b) Language proficiency as required by the Graduate School for International students.

These assistantships are filled at the discretion of the Department Chair.

2. Research Assistants/Graduate Assistants (RAs/GAs): In the Departments of Microbiology (MICR), Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (BMB), and Medical Microbiology, Immunology and Cell Biology (MMICB), RAs and GAs are provided through internally and externally funded grants and contracts. Such assistantships are filled at the discretion of the Principal Investigator and/or fiscal officer for the grant/contract. In the case of departmentally provided RAs and GAs, assistantships may be filled at the discretion of the Department Chair.