Interested in Being a Graduate Assistant?

Benefits
For many students, one of the real benefits of a graduate education comes through serving as a Graduate Assistant. Students working in that role contribute in significant ways to the university but also gain many benefits themselves. Just a few of the benefits are: having your tuition paid (except $25); earning a stipend (minimum of $2,000 a semester); being mentored by faculty; learning more about teaching, coaching, and engaging in research; developing knowledge and skills related to your field of interest; opportunities to publish and present; networking with other students, faculty, staff, and professionals in your field; and a multitude of other specific benefits related to a wide variety of GA positions and job responsibilities.

Qualifications
The prospective Graduate Assistant must be a regularly-admitted, full-time student in good academic standing and able to maintain a 3.0 GPA. He or she is required to take 9-10 hours of course work and work 19 hours/week. For additional information about Graduate Assistantships and to obtain an application, go to https://gradschool.columbusstate.edu/graduate_assistantships.php. An interview will typically be required and should be completed before obtaining signatures on the application.

Types of Graduate Assistantship Positions
There are many types of Graduate Assistantship positions and a host of academic and non-academic departments or centers on campus that offer them. Examples include:

- Academic Advising
- Academic Center for Tutoring
- Alumni Affairs
- Athletics
- Campus Recreation Center
- Center for International Education
- Center of Online Learning
- Deans offices
- Department offices
- Doctoral program
- Enrollment Services
- Graduate School
- Library
- Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center
- Residence Life
- Schwob School of Music
- Turner College of Business Quantitative Skills Lab
- University Information Technology Center (UITS)
- Wellness program

This is not an all-inclusive list and does not communicate all the types of positions that might be held in a given office. For example, under “Department offices”, there is a great deal of variability. Students hired as GAs for the Natural Sciences program will likely be teaching science labs, and some hired for Exercise Science and Health and Physical Education will teach wellness courses. Students working in department offices may assist faculty with research, tutor students, help produce newsletters, assist with grant writing, grade student exam questions, and otherwise support the specific needs of the department. Those hired in Athletics may help coach teams, develop content for the website, monitor the budget, and assist with recruitment.

Students interested in obtaining Graduate Assistant positions should consider the knowledge and skills they have to offer as well as their interests when making a decision about where to seek a position. Depending on the job responsibilities, those hiring may be looking for expertise in teaching, research, computer science, written or oral communication skills, marketing, or other specific knowledge, skills, and personal qualities. Some offices hire students from specific majors because of the expertise they are able to bring. Oxbow Meadows most often hires students interested in Biology or Environmental Science. Counseling students are frequently hired as GAs by Residence Life and the Counseling Center. Computer Science students are in demand by many departments because they have skills that are broadly applicable.
Position Vacancies

At this time I am aware of two offices actively seeking Graduate Assistants for the Fall 2016 term. One is the Office of Alumni Relations. The student hired will need to “assist with creating, implementing and maintaining an online web presence” and, among other things, “provide support for and assist with planning, organizing, coordinating, promoting, and facilitating special Alumni Engagement events”. The office lists the following as skills needed: social networking experience, website development, content management system experience, oral and written communication, event planning, good demeanor with students and ability to motivate them, and willingness to work as a team but also take individual proactive leadership. For questions or to set up an interview, contact Katie Evans at Katie.Evans@ColumbusState.edu

The Graduate School is also looking for a Graduate Assistant for the Fall 2016 term. The GAs’ responsibilities will include face-to-face recruitment as well as following up with phone calls, so interested students must be able to talk easily with others and to communicate positively about what CSU has to offer. Most of the work hours will be flexible. Strong written communication skills are also needed, as the GA will have responsibility for conducting and writing interviews and other articles for the Graduate School Newsletter. Social networking and marketing experience would also be beneficial. For more information, call or email Dr. Ellen Roberts at 706-507-8503 or eroberts@columbustate.edu.

Graduate Assistantship Training: Save the Date

New Graduate Assistants as well as any returning Graduate Assistants who have not completed training will have GA training on Friday, August 19 in the President’s Club of the Lumpkin Center. More information about the schedule and how to register will be forthcoming in future Newsletters and through your email account. Stay tuned. In the meantime, please set this date aside. Your supervisors will be contacted to make sure they understand that this will be counted as a part of your work hours for the week.

As usual for Graduate School events, lunch will be provided at no cost to you. The focus of Graduate Assistant training will be on practical information to help you in your jobs. Looking forward to seeing you on August 19!

Mark Your Calendar...

June Session Classes
June 13-July 28

Mini II Session Classes
June 22-July 27

Fall 2016 Graduation Application Deadline
August 8

Registration Deadline for Graduate School
August 14 (Fall 2016)

The Graduate School wants to hear from you! Do you know a graduate student or faculty member who has gone over and beyond in their work/studies; presented at a major conference; had a publication accepted, etc.? If so, we would love to feature them in the Graduate School newsletter. Please email us at: gradschool@columbustate.edu

YOUR FIRST CHOICE FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL

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https://www.facebook.com/csugraduateschool