

Criteria for TA and Nonresident Tuition Fellowship Selection (2017 Applicants for 2017-18 Appointments)

Academic Year TAships: TAship offers for the academic year are based on total points for progress, scholarship, and teaching (subject to the willingness and ability to teach specific courses). You must be registered for at least 12 units (including 299's) during academic year appointments. All appointments are contingent upon funding, satisfactory teaching performance, and a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Limits on TA Appointments: Appointments are subject to these limits:

TA, Associate-In and Reader Appointments are subject to an **18-quarter limit** (extensions beyond that limit are not possible).

Research (RA and Student PGR) Appointments are subject to a 21-quarter limit (extensions beyond that limit are not possible).

Summer TAships: The same criteria are used. Summer offers are not subject to limitations on quarters of support. Summer registration is not required of those registered during the spring quarter. Very few positions are available.

Nonresident Tuition Fellowships: The Progress and Scholarship criteria form the basis for NRTF awards.

Point Assessment: Marilyn will calculate student point totals using the Assessment Worksheet. Students will be given an opportunity to review and comment on the worksheet. Students who are not initially offered TAships will be informed of their position on the waiting list.

PROGRESS IN THE GRADUATE PROGRAM (40 points)

For economics graduate students, *minimum satisfactory progress*, for which 40 points are awarded, means completing graduate work at the minimum pace expected of teaching assistants and with the grades required for the Ph.D., as detailed in the *Graduate Handbook*. Adjustments are made where progress is more or less rapid only as shown in the table below.

Deviations from normal progress rules or any allowances for significant and highly unusual circumstances beyond the control of the student must have been approved in writing by the Graduate Program Chair prior to the **March 1** application deadline.¹

Because Ph.D.-level training in economics is critical to teaching economics, applicants from other degree programs will be expected to have equivalent training.

¹Individual adjustments are limited to extraordinary cases, such as (a) resolving ambiguities regarding how many years the student has effectively been in the program where there has been an extended actual physical absence from the department (for two or more quarters); and (b) allowing for significant and highly unusual factors beyond the control of the student (such as a serious illness or a death in the immediate family).

Assessments are based on the student's record and year in the program as of the **March 1** application deadline, including courses passed during the winter quarter.

	<i>Adjustments for deviations from minimum satisfactory progress</i>	<i>Points +/-</i>
<u>courses:</u>	for each course not completed	-5
<u>prelims:</u>	for each prelim not completed	-10
second year only	“good” (3.000+) on micro or macro prelim	+5 (on first attempt, at spring administration only)
*third–fifth year	for Literature Review/Research Proposal not done.....	-5
	(* pertains to students who entered the program Fall 2008 or later)	
<u>orals:</u>		
first–fourth years	orals completed by the beginning of the Fall Quarter.....	+10
fifth year	orals completed but thesis not done.....	-10
fifth year	orals not completed	-20

SCHOLARSHIP (30 points)

Scholarship is measured by cumulative GPA (excluding Incompletes) at the end of the winter quarter. Points are assigned according to the formula: $points = (GPA - 3.0) * 30$.

TEACHING PERFORMANCE OR POTENTIAL (30 points)

Student and instructor evaluations are on a 1–5 point scale. The three most recent quarters of TA experience are used as follows: first (1) the “overall evaluation of TA” scores are averaged and (2) the professors’ evaluations are averaged. Then the sum of (1) and (2), minus 5, is multiplied by 6 to yield an overall score on a 30-point scale.²

For continuing students who have no teaching record in the Economics Department there will be an automatic assignment of 20.00 points. Note that there are additional requirements for international students who have not yet served as a T.A. for the Economics Department (see Economics Department Policy Concerning the Appointment of International Students, below).

Questions regarding grades or teaching evaluations should first be discussed with the original decision maker. If a dispute is not resolved amicably in this way, you may consult with your graduate advisor or with the graduate program chair. Information on the formal grievance process can be found on the Student Judicial Affairs home page at <http://sja.ucdavis.edu>. (Note: under University rules no one—not even the professor who

²Where the student has fewer than three quarters of teaching experience, the available evaluations are averaged. Where a TA fails to obtain teaching evaluations, a score of zero will be used for that quarter. If the professor’s evaluation is missing for any quarter the student evaluation score for that quarter (if available) will be used in lieu of the professor’s evaluation.

assigned a grade—has authority to change a course grade unless a procedural error was made.)

**ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT POLICY CONCERNING
THE APPOINTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
AS TEACHING ASSISTANTS**

(for International Students who have not previously served as a TA in the Economics Dept.)

In accordance with University policy, international students whose mother tongue is not English are required to take the SPEAK test. **A score of 50 is considered to be the minimum acceptable (in the past, students who scored less than 50 encountered serious communication problems and in some cases their TAship had to be revoked).** In addition to this, the following applies.

- (1) Every international student who intends to be a TA, irrespective of his/her SPEAK test score, has to give a 15 minute presentation in the presence of the GSC chair and any students and faculty who might wish to attend.
- (2) If the TAship in question is for Winter or Spring, the 15 minute presentation will take place in the Fall Quarter during a meeting of Ecn 397. If the TAship is for Fall Quarter and the student being considered is not a newly admitted student for Fall 2017, then the presentation will take place in the preceding Spring Quarter. If the TAship is for Fall Quarter and the student being considered is a newly admitted student for Fall 2017, the presentation will take place at the time when Math Camp begins.
- (3) After the presentation, the GSC chair will consult with those who attended and make a recommendation to the Chair of the Department. If the recommendation is that the student not be appointed as a TA until he/she can demonstrate improved communication abilities, the student can appeal to the Department Chair. In this case the Department Chair will arrange for another presentation by the student, attended by the Chair and at least one other faculty member and at least one student. This second presentation will take place within 10 days of the first presentation. After the second presentation the Department Chair will make a decision in consultation with those who attended.