

Graduate Assistantship (GA) Start & End Dates by Term

GRA (Research) assistants may begin or end work at any time within a semester. The stipend will be prorated based upon those dates. GRA's who are hired for one-year appointments will normally begin their appointment on the 1st of July and end on the last day of June.

GSA (Support) and GTA/GTS (Teaching) assistants can be hired for a semester or for the combined fall and spring semesters. GSA's and GTA/GTS's who are hired for one-year appointments will require a Personnel Action Form (PAF) combining the fall and spring as well as a separate PAF for summer.

PAF Due Dates

All Graduate Assistantship DocuSign PAF's should be submitted to the College of Graduate Studies by the following due dates for each semester:

Fall deadline: July 27th

Spring deadline: November 23rd

Summer deadline: April 27th

Appointment Date Requirements

Type of Assistantship	Start Date	End Date
GRA (Research)	Flexible start date	Flexible end date
GSA (Support)	First day of class	Last day of classes
GTA/GTS (Teaching)	One week prior to first day of class	Last day of finals

Summer 2025 Typical Start/End Date for GRA Appointments^{1,2}

Type of Assistantship	Start Date	End Date
GRA (Research)	6/1/2025	7/31/2025

Summer 2025 Start/End Dates for GSA and GTA/GTS Appointments^{1,2,3}

Type of Assistantship	Term 1	Term 2	Both Terms
GSA (Support)	5/27/2025–6/25/2025**	6/30/2025–7/29/2025**	5/27/2025–7/29/2025
GTA/GTS (Teaching)	5/20/2025–6/27/2025	6/23/2025–8/1/2025**	5/20/2025–8/1/2025

Fall 2025–Spring 2026 Typical Start/End Dates for GRA Appointments^{1,2}

Type of Assistantship	Start Date	End Date
GRA (Research)	8/1/2025	5/31/2026
GRA (Research)	7/1/2025	6/30/2026

Fall 2025–Spring 2026 Start/End Dates for GSA and GTA/GTS Appointments^{1,2}

Type of Assistantship	Fall 2025 Only	Spring 2026 Only	Fall 2025–Spring 2026
GSA (Support)	8/21/2025–12/5/2025**	1/15/2026–5/1/2026**	8/21/2025–5/1/2026**
GTA/GTS (Teaching)	8/14/2025–12/11/2025	1/8/2026–5/7/2026	8/14/2025–5/7/2026

¹GA appointments cannot cross over the fiscal year unless the appointment is for summer term only.

²If the start date is after the 15th of the month (or if the PAF is received by Human Resources after the 15th of the month), the GA will not receive a paycheck for that month. That month's salary will be included in the next month's paycheck. (NOTE: Bi-weekly paychecks begin in January 2026.)

³Intersession appointments: Use the first day of intersession classes (5/12/2025) as the start date for the Summer PAF.

General Salary/Pay Information

- GA salaries are determined by the department or college.
- GA's are paid on the last day of the month.
- If the start date is after the 15th of the month or if the PAF is received by Human Resources after the 15th of the month, the GA will not receive a paycheck for that month. Any salary specified on the PAF for that month will be included in the next month's paycheck. (NOTE: Bi-weekly paychecks begin in January 2026.)
- A GA who is graduating may not work after the last day of finals. If the student does not graduate, a Change PAF can be submitted to adjust the end date. (NOTE: The student will also need to submit a Change of Graduation Term form.)

Typical Payment Schedules

Type of GA	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
GRA (Research)	GRA's have prorated pay for partial months	GRA's have prorated pay for partial months
GSA (Support)	Equal Payments for September, October, November, and December	Equal Payments for January, February, March, and April However, if the appointment start date is after January 15th, equal payments for February, March, and April
GTA/GTS (Teaching)	Equal Payments for September, October, November, and December	Equal Payments for January, February, March, and April However, if the appointment start date is after January 15th, equal payments for February, March, and April

Position Numbers and Account Codes

GRA (Research) and GSA (Support)

- Position Numbers: XXX950 (master's) & XXX970 (PhD)
- Account Code: 61643

GTA/GTS (Teaching)

- Position Numbers: XXX960 (master's) & XXX980 (PhD)
- Account Code: 61243

For Additional Information

- More information about graduate assistantships is available on the College of Graduate Studies website at <https://www.tntech.edu/graduatestudies/faculty/ga-deptinfo.php> and <https://www.tntech.edu/graduatestudies/students/ga-studentinfo.php>.
- TTU Policy 274 (Graduate Assistantships) is located at <https://www.tntech.edu/policies/>.
- Contact the College of Graduate Studies at 931-372-3233 or gradstudies@tntech.edu with any questions.