

Chemistry Lab TA Applications

If you are interested in being TA please read the following information and select the application for the course you are interested in being a TA for.

If you have any questions please contact

For the Organic Labs: John-Carl Olsen john-carl.olsen@rochester.edu

For the Gen Chem Labs: Courtney Stanford courtney.stanford@rochester.edu

Chemistry Lab TA Job Description

Responsibilities

Depending on the course, TAs will be responsible for leading lab experiments, grading, and holding office hours to meet individually with students to provide help.

Most Lab TA Duties include: supervising labs (~3h/week), holding office hours (1h/week), grading student assignments (~2-3h/week), attending TA meeting (~1-2 hr/per week).

Lab TA Meetings you will possibly be expected to perform the experiment, collect sample data, do the in-class worksheets covering concepts, and solve calculations for the experiment that you will be teaching that week.

Please check with the instructor for specific responsibilities, some courses might require additional/different work.

Application Tips

Any student who has taken the course or equivalent version is eligible to be a TA. Most students who do TA consider it a valuable part of their undergraduate experience. Benefits include strengthening your knowledge of the subject, communication skills, time management skills, and empathy. It is also an opportunity to build a stronger relationship with a specific instructor, who may be able to provide a letter of recommendation in the future.

A good way to learn more about what it's like to be a TA is to talk to current or former TAs. Did you have a TA that you really liked? Talk to them about their experience.

To apply, you do not need to have prior experience TAing, but it is helpful if you have some prior experience helping others in a formal or informal educational setting (e.g., high school or undergraduate tutoring or working in study groups with fellow students). Also consider what specific characteristics or other skills (e.g., public speaking experience, organization skills) you

might bring to this position that could be relevant. A clear rationale for wanting to be a TA may also help make your application successful. When writing your rationale, think about the class in terms of what you thought was successful and what might be done more effectively.

Scheduling

Please note that being a TA is a sizable time commitment. Students often prefer to correspond with their undergraduate TAs instead of their instructors, so be sure that this responsibility fits into your schedule. Time management is key to a successful experience.

The times you select in this application are just to give us a rough idea of your availability. Schedules change and we do not expect you to know all of your schedule next semester this far in advance.

If you are hired you will be asked to complete another available times sheet to give us preference for when you would prefer to teach based on your updated schedule.

Application Due Dates

Preferences will be given to students who complete the applications by the following dates

- Fall Courses (131, 137, 173, 207) - May 1
- Spring Courses (132, 208, 210) - December 1

Notification of Acceptance

Notification of acceptance will be

- Fall Courses - Early August. Please make sure you check your emails over the summer, if we do not hear back from you within 2 weeks we will assume you are no longer interested in the position.

This is later than some other courses because Graduate Students are also responsible for teaching the labs and they are required to teach as part of the program, so availability will vary each semester based on the number of Grad Students who will also be TAing

- Spring Courses - Late December

Stipend

TAs will be paid ~\$1800 per TA unit. We have fought hard to get this increase for our TAs because we value the hard work you put into being a TA.

List of Applications

If you want to apply to more than one position you must complete each form separately. If you apply to more than one please indicate which is your preferred course to teach.

[General Chemistry Lab \(131/132\) TA Application](#)

[General Chemistry Lab \(137\) TA Application](#) (This is a Fall only course)

[Organic Chemistry Lab \(207/208\) TA Application](#)

[Organic Chemistry Lab \(173/210\) TA Application](#)