

Department of Plant Biology and Pathology

Criteria for the Appointment and Reappointment of Teaching Assistants

TA appointment: TAs are selected and appointed by a TA committee composed of the graduate program director, department chair, and undergraduate program director(s). The reappointment is recommended by the TA committee in consultation with course instructors and the TA's graduate advisor.

Criteria for appointment:

- a. TAs must be admitted or enrolled in the Plant Biology Graduate Program at the time of appointment;
- b. The ability to communicate in an oral and written fashion;
- c. Competence in subject area to be taught, including academic or practical experience, and previously taken courses with lab sessions; or
- d. Prior teaching experience;
- e. Students in pursuit of the Ph.D. degree will normally be given preference over M.S. students.

TA reappointment: TA reappointment is dependent on funding availability and TA's academic and teaching performance. TA is normally appointed annually and can be reappointed for a maximum of two years due to limited TA positions in the department ensure that as many Ph.D. students as possible have teaching experience during their graduation training.

Criteria for reappointment:

- f. The student should maintain no less than a 3.0 GPA in graduate course work;
- g. The student should develop appropriate teaching skills for subject matter taught, as judged by course instructor and student evaluation (if available);
- h. The student should make satisfactory progress towards the graduate degree in graduate courses, research work, or both as judged by the dissertation advisor and the graduate program director;
- i. Students in pursuit of the Ph.D. degree will normally be given preference over M.S. students.