

Guidelines for TA selection (on-campus program)
Department of Fire Protection Engineering

The Department of Fire Protection Engineering (FPE) offers partial or full teaching assistantships to selected graduate students. Teaching Assistants (TAs) are tasked to assist with the instruction of FPE courses offered on-campus during the Spring and Fall terms. In exchange, TAs receive a stipend as well as tuition and health benefits. The recruitment of TAs includes a nomination step and a selection step: the nomination step includes both self-nominations and nominations made by the FPE Faculty and advising staff; the selection step is based on criteria that are discussed below.

The selection of TAs in the FPE Department is done by the Director of Graduate Studies in consultation with the FPE Faculty and advising staff and according to the following guidelines:

- Teaching Assistants are graduate students of the FPE Department, *i.e.*, Master of Science (MS) students or Master of Engineering (MEng) students enrolled in FPE, or PhD students from other Departments of the Clark School of Engineering (and possibly from other schools and colleges at the University of Maryland) provided that they are advised by a member of the FPE Faculty.
- During the selection process, preference is given to students engaged in the research activities of the FPE Department, first to PhD students and second to MS students. (Note that PhD students are also encouraged to consider TA opportunities in the Department where they are enrolled.)
- The selection process will consider the student's familiarity with the subject material of the course(s), the availability of the student during the time the course(s) is (are) taught, and the level of support being provided to the student for other activities within the Department or at the University.
- Incoming MS students may apply to a teaching assistantship during their first term at UMD before they identify a Thesis advisor and project. However, MS students cannot apply during their second term without having first identified a Thesis advisor and project.
- The FPE Faculty is committed to providing suitable support to the Department portfolio of courses and understand that they may occasionally be called to nominate individuals from their research groups to act as TAs for the Department in case of a low number of nominees.