Teaching Assistant & Distance Education Tutor/Marker Priority System

The Publishing Program (PUB) follows the TSSU Collective Agreement, specifically Article XIII B and F for Teaching Assistants (TA) and Article XV F for Distance Education Tutor/Marker (TM), when hiring in these areas.

Per Article XIII F.3.a (Teaching Assistants)
In hiring TAs (and TMs as per Article XV F.2.b.), Publishing (PUB) will give priority to the applicants in the following order:
1) Graduate students registered in Publishing (PUB) with priority under XIII F.4.
2) Graduate students registered in Publishing (PUB) without priority under XIII F.4.
3) Graduate students registered in other departments with priority under XIII F.4.
4) Graduate students registered in other departments without priority under XIII F.4.
5) “Other” applicants, such as undergraduate students registered at SFU, in Publishing or other departments; and external applicants.

Per Article XIII F.4 (Teaching Assistants)
Graduate student priority for appointment as a Teaching Assistant shall be limited as follows:
a. a student registered at SFU in a MA program or as a qualifying student for a MA program shall not have priority for appointment after having held appointments totaling 25 base units.
b. a student registered at SFU in a PhD program or as a qualifying student for a PhD program who holds a MA degree or equivalent shall not have priority for appointment after having held appointments totaling 40 base units.
c. A student registered at SFU in a PhD program without a MA degree or equivalent shall not have priority for an appointment as a GTA 2 after having held appointments totaling 50 base units.

Per Article XV.F.2 (Tutor-Markers)
In hiring TM’s, Publishing (PUB) will give priority to the applicants in the following order:
1) Qualified graduate students who have previously demonstrated satisfactory performance as a TM.
2) Qualified applicants – as outlined for TA’s in Article XIII.F

Note: Base Units (BU’s) accumulated as a TA and as a TM will be added together.

Whenever the number of applicants who have priority for appointment exceeds the number of teaching assistantships available in a given semester, priority shall be given based on the following criteria:
1) Instructor evaluations and rankings, based on the extent that the applicants meet the required qualifications for the course in the application system
2) Applicants’ availability for the course
3) Applicants’ preference
If an assignment within a priority group requires a selection between applicants, the graduate student without financial support from merit based scholarships or merit based fellowships during the semester of appointment will have priority for the appointment.

For further information regarding the Publishing Program priority system please contact:

Jo-Anne Ray  
Manager, Academic and Administrative Services  
jray@sfu.ca  
778-782-5242

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