



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATED GRADUATE WORKING AS A TEACHING/RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION in BC

OVERVIEW

In post-secondary education, teaching assistants (TA's), lab assistants and markers all support the work of university professors and college faculty in teaching and research activities. Teaching assistants and markers are usually enrolled in a program of study at the university or college they are attending and work in the same study area. TA's and markers can work both autonomously and in a team environment.

At research universities, they help professors conduct labs or study groups, grade papers or prepare lectures. Some graduate TA's may teach their own course under guidance from the professor. Such courses are usually introductory level ones in their field of study. They may work as 'sessionals' (adjunct professors) on a per course, per semester basis. These are not tenure track positions. Research assistants may work preparing, setting up and cleaning labs and scientific instruments. They may work in department tutoring centers assisting other students to be successful (e.g. math, economics, English).

Teaching assistant and research assistant work is considered temporary, although some individuals continue to work in research after graduation. For those international educated graduates interested in a teaching career in post-secondary, these positions provide the opportunity to gain teaching and/or research experience and can facilitate moving into faculty positions in future. There are a limited number of research universities in the province (UBC, SFU and UVIC) which restricts the number of research assistant positions available.

At colleges, **lab assistants** have usually completed a Master's level degree program of study. Those with a doctoral degree hope to transition to full-time teaching should faculty positions become available. Lab assistants are responsible for setting up and conducting labs; cleaning and maintaining equipment. They may have budget authority to purchase needed lab supplies throughout the fiscal year.

Markers are paid on an hourly basis to mark and grade assignment and exams for the instructor who hires them. The number of hours of work is contracted each semester. Markers may be internal (second-year students) or external (university students or graduates). At colleges second-year students may be hired to provide 'peer support learning (PSL)' in their area of study.

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Other names for teaching assistant positions are marker, TA, lab demonstrator, lab assistant, or research assistant.

EDUCATION, TRAINING and QUALIFICATIONS

Teaching assistants working at a university have a minimum Bachelor degree and are registered in a master's or doctoral study program and in the area of academic specialization. Some previous teaching experience and experience in the course being taught are desirable.

At the colleges, equivalent temporary positions are markers who are registered in the academic course of study and have successfully completed and excelled in the subject matter in the course(s) being taught. Markers are entry-level, unionized positions that pay minimum wage or slightly higher, depending on experience and course level.

Lab assistants have graduated with a Master's degree in the program of study. These positions are usually permanent and may be full or part time.

Applicants for these positions must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents.

RESOURCES

Career Explorer - <https://www.careerexplorer.com/careers/graduate-teaching-assistant/>

UBC Research Assistants - <https://hr.ubc.ca/managers-admins/recruiting-and-hiring/faculty-recruitment/faculty-titles-ranks-and-descriptions-1>

WorkBC - <https://www.workbc.ca/careers/4012#about-this-job>



JOB BOARDS

GlassDoor - https://www.glassdoor.ca/Job/vancouver-research-assistant-jobs-SRCH_IL.0,9_IC2278756_KO10,28.htm

Indeed ca - <https://ca.indeed.com/Research-Assistant-jobs-in-Vancouver,-BC>

Indeed ca (University Research Assistant) - <https://ca.indeed.com/University-Research-Assistant-jobs-in-Vancouver,-BC>

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/research-assistant-jobs-vancouver-bc/?originalSubdomain=ca>

SFU Research Assistant Positions -
<https://www.sfu.ca/istld/researchassistants/raopportunities.html> and
<https://www.sfu.ca/human-resources/prospective-employees/tssu-postings.html>

SimplyHired -
<https://www.simplyhired.ca/search?q=research+assistant&l=vancouver%2C+bc&job=F5O5YJBE9roLSIXMN90DYsdLsOkR7qCSU3LqoW7OQUaAxkGKeq01-w>

UBC Staff Positions - <https://hr.ubc.ca/careers-and-job-postings/staff-careers> and
<https://ubc.wd10.myworkdayjobs.com/ubcstaffjobs>

Workopolis (research assistant) - <https://www.workopolis.com/jobsearch/find-jobs?ak=research+assistant&l=vancouver+british+columbia&job=2pN8XpaVL5ADDfuhBjZJWlrbwQWShks0wfgdWrlQ57TRBuBXyOOBCQ>

WowJobs - https://www.wowjobs.ca/careers-research+assistant+part-time-jobs-in-Vancouver+BC?job=1QmmKJF3DjiTPhqy0g9VvPK-oFI1g6AjFzYJzko3Kq-RN3b_a9qPQ