

Frequently Asked Questions **Prospective Research Assistants (RA) and Teaching Assistants (TA)**

Q. How do I apply for RA and TA positions?

- A. Computer Science and Computer Engineering students apply here for TA positions only:
<http://courses.eas.asu.edu/taship/>.

PhD Industrial Engineering students are considered for an RA or TA at the time of admission. Due to limited funding and preference being given to Ph.D. students, Master Industrial Engineering students are not considered for funding at the time of admission unless the student has discussed his/her case with a faculty.

There is no application for Research Assistant positions. Faculty review admission applications and contact the student to discuss whether the student's background matches the faculty research needs. Once a student is selected for an RA position, an e-mail will be sent to the student through Pamela Dunn or Denise Spisak, Department HR Specialists.

Q. How and when will I be notified if I am offered a RA or TA position?

- A. You will receive an email from the unit if offered an RA or TA position. We do not have an exact date when these offers are extended. Generally, Fall offers are extended in August and Spring offers are extended in December.

Q. My native language is not English. Where do I take the TSE/SPEAK Test?

- A. The TSE/SPEAK Test is administered by Global Launch. For testing dates please visit their website <http://learnenglish.asu.edu/international-teaching-assistants>.

Q. My native language is not English. What do I need to score on the TSE/SPEAK test?

- A. All prospective graduate teaching assistants/associates whose native language is not English will be required to take the TSE/SPEAK test or provide an iBT speaking score of 26 on the speaking section regardless of the type of instructional responsibility they will be assigned.

Students scoring 55 or above on the TSE/SPEAK or 26 on the iBT speaking section will be permitted to assume primary teaching responsibilities, e.g., serving as the instructor of a class or leading discussion groups.

Students scoring 50 will be permitted to assume secondary teaching responsibilities, e.g., as a laboratory teaching assistant, reader of tests, etc. Students scoring below 50 on the SPEAK Test are not certified by AECF. Students scoring below 50 on the TSE/SPEAK are encouraged to enroll in International Teaching Assistant (ITA) seminar, no-fee, non-credit semester long course that addresses language improvement, teaching skills, and cross-cultural training. For more information on the ITA Seminar, please visit here: <http://learnenglish.asu.edu/international-teaching-assistants>.

More information on this requirement is available from the [International Teaching Assistant Program](#): 480-727-2473 or GlobalLaunch.ITA@asu.edu