

**Department of Physics  
IIT Kanpur**

**Teaching Assistanceship (TA) duties for post-graduate students (MS and Ph.D)**

TA duties are assigned by the department to post-graduate students (MS/Ph.D) during the semester period as long as they receive fellowship/stipend from IITK or other Government agencies such as MHRD, UGC, CSIR, and PMRF.

The admission document sent as offer letter to Ph.D students mentions this duty.

This is done for all the students uniformly in order to ensure there is no discrimination or disparity due to their source of funds. The students are asked for their choice (course number), and to a large extent, the students are assigned one of their choices. Those on study/official/medical leave are exempted from TA duty.

Apart from helping in better conceptual understanding of scientific methods and principles, doing TA duty in laboratory courses teaches responsibility to these students and also enables them to mentor junior students (both undergraduate and post-graduate) through their interactions. Doing TA duty in theory courses helps in learning the methods of setting questions in assignments/tests and in grading methods. This is an advantage in doing Ph.D at a UG/PG educational institute such as IITK.

At the time of graduation, students can ask for a letter from the Head which specifies the courses and duties done by them. This is useful for their future academic career. Closer interaction with the faculty members teaching the course can help in getting reference letters that highlights their contributions, and builds a foundation for a life-long connection.

It is expected that the TA duty will not exceed 8 hours per week during the semester period. Any excess work may be reported so that compensatory measures may be taken.

Post-graduate students who receive stipend/fellowship from industry/non-Governmental sponsors will be governed by the guidelines of the sponsor and will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

2.1.2020

Head, Dept of Physics.