



**REQUEST FOR STUDENT APPLICATIONS**  
**Doctoral STEM Teaching Assistantship**  
**NDSU/UND ONLY**  
**Issued: January 12, 2021**  
**~~Due: March 11, 2021~~**  
**EXTENDED Due Date: Open until filled**  
**Award Start Date: August 1, 2021**

**TO:** NDSU/UND Doctoral Students in the Sciences, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics  
**FROM:** North Dakota (ND) Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)  
**RE:** Doctoral STEM Teaching Assistantship Program Announcement

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**Purpose:**

ND EPSCoR's Doctoral STEM Teaching Assistantship program is designed to increase NDSU/UND doctoral students' understanding of and experience in STEM teaching and research involving undergraduate students. These semester-long placements (Fall 2021 or Spring 2022) at a Tribal College/University (TCU), Primarily Undergraduate Institution (PUI), or Master's College/University (MCU) in North Dakota involve teaching and research duties under the direction of faculty research participants in ND EPSCoR's National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded New Discoveries at the Advanced Interface of Computation, Engineering, and Science (ND-ACES) project in the areas of materials design, cellular systems, or computational approaches. [Click here](#) for more information about ND EPSCoR's ND-ACES project. [Click here](#) for a list of ND-ACES faculty researchers at the TCUs, PUIs, and MCU.

**Description of the Program:**

Support will be available for one academic semester (Fall 2021 or Spring 2022). The stipend level is not to exceed \$9,266 plus fringe benefits for that semester. It is anticipated that a total of four (4) Doctoral STEM Teaching Assistantships will be awarded, with two awards made to students from North Dakota State University (NDSU) and two awards made to students from the University of North Dakota (UND). The student's assistantship will be processed through his/her home institution. The ND-ACES Center for Cellular Biointerfaces in Science and Engineering (CCBSE) Leads, Education and Workforce Development Leads, the ND EPSCoR STEM Manager, the ND EPSCoR Tribal Colleges/Universities Liaison Manager, and faculty from participating institutions will serve as the review panel to evaluate the applications.

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Are Ph.D. candidates (and have completed their coursework and passed their comprehensive and/or general exam)
- Are majoring in a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) discipline and are qualified to teach undergraduate courses in the discipline of the course that they will be required to lead.
- Are enrolled at NDSU or UND

**Priority will be given to:**

- Underrepresented minorities; especially Native Americans and women
- Applicants from underserved populations; who attended a rural high school
- Applicants who previously attended a TCU, PUI, or MCU

**Application Supplements:**

Ph.D. candidate's application must include three letters of endorsement:

- one letter of endorsement from his/her major advisor on how the assistantship will be used to further his/her professional development and career trajectory. The letter must include a statement that the student is in good standing academically, has completed his/her coursework and passed the comprehensive and/or general exam, and is qualified to teach the TCU, PUI, or MCU course;
- one letter of endorsement from the TCU, PUI, or MCU ND-ACES researcher whom the student will support which shall include 1) the name, academic rank, degree program, and institution of the Ph.D. candidate, 2) the name, title, and institution of the ND-ACES TCU, PUI, or MCU faculty researcher, 3) the course that the Ph.D. candidate will teach from the ND-ACES faculty researcher at the TCU, PUI, or MCU, and 4) the semester in which the Ph.D. candidate will teach the course; and
- one letter of endorsement from the Academic Dean/Vice President/Provost at the TCU, PUI, or MCU indicating that the ND-ACES faculty researcher will remain the instructor of record, supervising the Ph.D. candidate, while receiving release time to work on his/her ND-ACES project.

Finally, the student must submit a 2 – 3-page double-spaced essay on the importance of this experience to be able to teach and conduct research at a TCU, PUI, or MCU.

**Primary Evaluation Criteria:**

- Credentials of the student (see Checklist)
- Quality of Essay
- Three (3) Endorsement Letters

**Application Submittal Checklist** (Submit items in the following order in a single PDF file):

1. **Cover Page.** Available at <https://www.ndepscor.ndus.edu/fileadmin/ndus/ndepscor/STEM/STEMCoverPage.pdf>
2. **Essay.** Described above. Double spaced with 1-inch margins.
3. **Student's credentials.** Include an NSF-style biographical sketch. Visit <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/biosketch.jsp> for information on the two approved formats.
4. **Three (3) Endorsement letters.** Described above.

**Electronic Submission:** Submit all application materials in a single PDF file to [ndepscor@ndus.edu](mailto:ndepscor@ndus.edu) via e-mail attachment. Please indicate subject line as "Doctoral STEM Teaching Assistantship Application."

**NOTICE:** ND EPSCoR may refuse to review any application that does not comply with the checklist.

**Award Announcements and Additional Information:**

Applications are due on or before Noon, March 11, 2021. Awards will be announced on or about April 30, 2021, and funds are expected to be available on or about August 1, 2021.

Awards are contingent upon availability of funds from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the State of North Dakota. These assistantships are provided in conjunction with ND EPSCoR's Track-1 cooperative agreement ND-ACES with the NSF.

**Please direct questions to Shireen Alemadi, ND EPSCoR STEM Manager at 231-8264 or [shireen.alemadi@ndus.edu](mailto:shireen.alemadi@ndus.edu)**

**For information about ND EPSCoR and other funding opportunities, please visit [www.ndepscor.ndus.edu](http://www.ndepscor.ndus.edu)**