

Step-Specific GSI Qualifications

In addition to the general qualifications listed above, each step in the GSI series has a specific set of qualifications as outlined below. Experience associated with teaching through Summer Sessions, either at UC Berkeley or elsewhere, and at University Extension or its equivalent at other institutions, is not counted for advancement in the GSI series. Experience is counted based on the semester system. Teaching credit accrues on a semester basis regardless of the number of courses taught during the semester. When credit is requested, by exception, for post-baccalaureate teaching at institutions of higher education operating on the quarter system, the experience is not counted on a one-for-one basis (i.e., a quarter is not considered equivalent to a semester).

To advance to GSI Steps II, III or IV, a student must have completed a master's degree or the equivalent. Equivalency is defined as completion of twenty-four units of upper division or graduate work in a doctoral degree program. Students who are currently in master's degree programs are not eligible for advancement. Exceptions to this policy based on special circumstances may be submitted to Associate Dean Carlos Fernandez-Pello for consideration. Advancement in the GSI series is not automatic. Once a student has been approved to advance to a higher step, he or she may not be moved to a lower level when subsequent teaching assignments are made. This does not, however, apply to step decisions made by Summer Sessions. If Summer Sessions appoints a student at a step higher or lower than the student would be eligible for under Graduate Division rules, the next appointment during the regular academic year is made at the appropriate level based on the step-specific criteria and other relevant qualifications.

Step 1: The student has no post-baccalaureate level experience teaching as a GSI at UC Berkeley or has completed one or more semesters of teaching as a GSI at UC Berkeley.

Step 2: If a student has completed at least four semesters of post-baccalaureate teaching experience as a GSI at UC Berkeley, a department has the discretion to appoint the GSI at Step II. Earlier advancement to Step II must be approved in advance by the Graduate Division. Decisions regarding such appointments are at the sole discretion of the Dean. Consideration will be given to a combination of post-baccalaureate teaching experience at UC Berkeley and other institutions of higher education, a combination of extraordinary merit and teaching experience, or exceptional merit alone.

Step 3: If a student has completed at least six semesters of post-baccalaureate teaching experience as a GSI or as an AI-GS at UC Berkeley, a department has the discretion to appoint the GSI at Step III. Earlier advancement to Step III must be approved in advance by the Graduate Division. Decisions regarding such appointments are at the sole discretion of the Dean. Consideration will be given to a combination of post-baccalaureate teaching experience at UC Berkeley and other institutions of higher education, a combination of extraordinary merit and teaching experience, or exceptional merit alone.

Step 4: Appointments at this level must be approved in advance by Associate Dean Carlos Fernandez-Pello. The student must: 1) be advanced to candidacy at the doctoral level; 2) have additional duties and responsibilities, beyond those normally assigned to a GSI, during the semester in which the advancement to this step would take place; 3) show exceptional promise as a teacher and scholar; and 4) have completed at least eight semesters of post-baccalaureate teaching as a GSI or Acting Instructor (AI-GS) at UC Berkeley.