



Teaching Assistants' Association | 520 University Avenue, Suite 220, Madison, WI 53703
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Friday, September 20, 2019

Dear Daniel Langer, Ginger Perkins, and Laura Rader:

It has come to our attention that the University of Wisconsin-Madison has not clearly communicated the segregated fees payment schedule to all graduate assistants. Since the Fall 2019 semester began, the Teaching Assistants' Association (TAA) has received a troubling number of inquiries regarding when, precisely, fees are due for graduate assistants with 33% or above appointments. As co-presidents of the TAA, we request that the Bursar's Office publish and promote a campus-wide statement clearly explaining to graduate assistants that they do not have to pay their segregated fees until the third paycheck. We also request that the Bursar's Office communicate this to department chairs and instruct them to disseminate this information. Lastly, we urge the Bursar's Office to ensure that payment dates posted on graduates' Student Center on MyWisc reflect the delayed payment schedule to avoid future confusion.

Graduate assistants have fought hard to alleviate the burden of segregated fees. Hundreds participated in a successful direct action during spring 2018 to protest the fee payment schedule change. Lack of communication from university officials should not contribute to graduate assistants' financial hardship and stress. Graduate assistants should not have to take out loans or sign up for payment plans as a result of misinformation.

Sincerely,
Sara Trongone, Co-president
Robert Christl, Co-president