



Block1

Provost LA Initiative (PLI)

Faculty Application for LA Funding for Spring 2023

This application is for all faculty working with LAs, both new and experienced.

Please fill all questions. Incomplete applications will be returned for modifications.

Your Department and/or Center:

First Name:

Last Name:

FIU Email:

What course are you applying for?

Example:

Course Code CHM1045

Course Name General Chemistry 1

Expected enrollment (as of submission date) 200

Course Code

Course Name

Expected enrollment (for multiple-section course,
total enrollment)

How many sections are you applying for?

- Only mine, that is, 1 section
- I coordinate a course and applying for the following number of sections:

Please add any comments regarding the course, that should be considered:

Are you a course coordinator? Course coordinators lead an instructor team and their LAs.

- Yes
- No, I'm the primary instructor of the course

Please add the names of faculty who are involved in the course.

How many LAs are you requesting to have in total? (e.g., 1 per section to a total of 8 LAs,
or 6 LAs for 1 section)

A typical ratio in large classrooms is 1 LA to 25-30 students.

Who will be running the weekly LA planning meeting?

- Me (That's the default option for most STEM courses, thank you!)
- Another instructor from our course team (please add the name)
- Other, please explain:

Why are you applying for LA funding for this course (or for your course team)?

What will be the benefits for LAs who work in your course (or as part of your course team)?

Is this the first time you will be working with LAs?

- Yes
- No

How likely are you to recommend other faculty to work with LAs in their courses?

- Not at all likely Extremely likely
- 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Can you describe the impact of working with LAs on **you** personally and your teaching?
(You can describe the impact on LAs and students but please mention the impact on you)

Is the course prepared to have LAs? Mark all that applies.

- I plan to reduce the time I lecture to allow for LAs to facilitate problem-solving sessions
- I plan to dedicate 1-hour a week for LA Planning meeting, to discuss the content and strategies with my LAs
- I plan to assess student learning
- For course coordinators: has anyone in your team worked with LAs? Check the box if Yes.



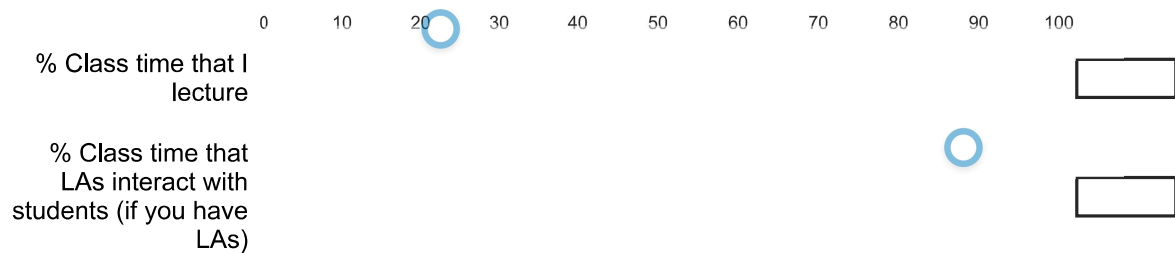
What is the format of the course?

- Face-to face (in-person)
- Lab
- Hybrid (certified)
- Remote Synchronous (Online Live)
- Fully online
- Other:

Please describe, in a few sentences, what a typical week of work in your course will look like with the addition of LAs to your class, including pre-class work, in-class activities and any LA-facilitated activities. [Here is an example:](#) My class (LA Seminar, SMT 3931) meets in-person on Fridays from 9-11am, this semester we have 51 students, I co-teach the class with another professor. Students prepare for class by writing two weekly reflections. The first is a reading reflection on a research paper related to instructional strategies and evidence-based STEM education. The second is a teaching reflection in which students discuss their experience in class and their interactions with students. There are 2 projects in the LA seminar: an interview project and Call-for-action project. In class, we run group activities in which groups use whiteboards around the room (in PG6-116). The instructors and 1 LA circulate in between groups and facilitate conversations.

On average, how often do you lecture in class (including whole class discussions)? If you lecture more than 50% of the time, the class may not be a good fit for having LAs, as they need to interact with students. The LA Program reserves the right to visit classes during the semester.

Drag sliders to indicate % class time:



Does it work?

Assessment

Regular assessment of our teaching and student learning is essential to making sure we create learning environments that help students reach their potential. One of the main goals of this initiative is to encourage creative ways to teach STEM, implement evidence-based practices and use assessments to gather feedback on how we teach.

In order to sustain the LA funding in your course, your request for LAs has to include evidence of student experiences, LA practices and/or your teaching practices. You need to upload a document that includes item #1 on the list below, and at least 1 more item from #2 through #5. (Most likely, you already have all of the needed evidence; consider what you have recently completed for the teaching evaluation project, the gateway survey, teaching awards or any CAT workshop you have participated in, surveys you have conducted in class, etc. Please email us if you're not sure, we will be happy to work with you.)

1. *Required:* Surveys of student experiences in class, including their interactions with LAs. Feel free to upload the gateway survey report or any other survey. It will help us understand how students interact with your LAs and provide you with support in the case that modifications are needed.

Complete at least 1 item from #2 through #5:

2. Other data you would like to share; for example, if you have already uploaded evidence in your annual teaching evaluation (i.e., [Data Sources: Student, Peer and Self](#) elements)

3. Any data related to mid-semester surveys.

4. Data about passing rates or learning gains on exams or concept inventories.

5. Data about the LAs themselves to see what they think of the experience and working with you as an instructor. The LA program can provide you with a short survey template if needed.

**If this is your first time applying through the PLI or if you haven't worked with LAs at all until now, please contact the LA Program for a consultation about assessment.

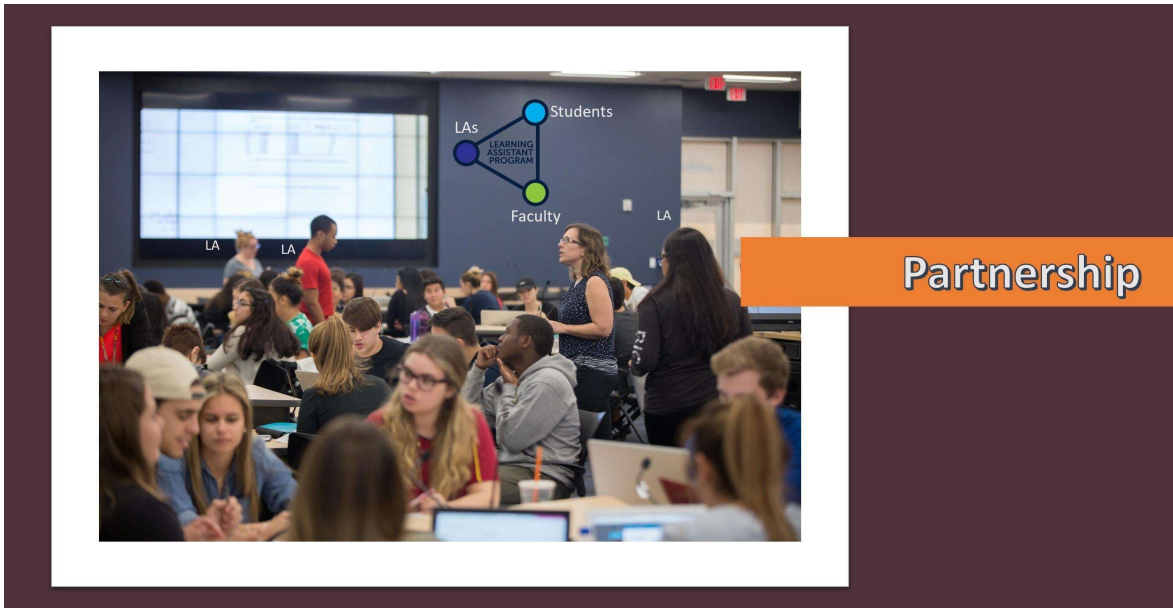
Please provide a brief explanation of your interpretation of this evidence, the context (e.g., semester, course, and time that this evidence was collected), and the most important takeaways from it.

We would like to help support future data collection for future LA funding and for your teaching evaluations. Depending on the level of interest in the community, we are considering different activities to this end. Please rate your interest in the following initiatives (drag the item to any of the spaces on the right, TE = [Teaching Evaluation Project](#)).

Items	Extremely interesting
1. For you peer evaluation (TE), the LA Program will match you with another LA faculty who teach a similar STEM course	
2. For student evaluation (TE), the LA program will send your students a survey asking about their experiences and particularly their interactions with LAs, shared only with you.	
3. For self evaluation (TE), the LA Program will offer classroom observation groups for a small group of faculty to observe a class together and debrief immediately after,	
4. The LA Program will match you with an LA Faculty Mentor or Mentee (as part of an initiative that can be mentioned under service/teaching in your annual evaluation).	
	Very interesting
	Moderately interesting
	Slightly interesting

Not interesting at all

Lastly



Is there anything else you would like to add or suggest?

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Next Steps:

Once you submit your application (below), we will review your application to allocate LA funding for your course. Our goal is to approve all compliant LA requests, as funding permits. We may contact you if your application needs modification in order to maximize the benefit of LAs.

If your application is approved, you commit to using only official, paid LAs who are registered with the LA Program (e.g. no "volunteer LAs" allowed). You also commit to meeting with your LAs for weekly planning. In effective course implementations, faculty get to know their LAs and support their preparation and professional development directly.

In the unlikely, exceptional case that you need more LAs than requested (due to unexpectedly increased enrollments, etc.), please reach out to us.

After your application is approved, the LA Program will ask you for the information of the LAs that you would like to hire. We will also send you a list of all applicants who indicated their interest in working in your course. Then, we will submit contracts for your LAs. All of this occurs within a short timeframe and is especially challenging in the transition from Fall to the Spring semester, so please pay attention to our communications and respect the due

dates to the best of your ability.

We thank you for your interest in LA Program, your work with LAs and your dedication to your students! If you have any questions, please contact us at laprogram@fiu.edu.

Are you ready to submit this application?

- I have read the information and confirm that the application is complete and ready for review. By checking this box, your application will be submitted. You will have a chance to download a copy of your application