

Resources and Referrals for Graduate Assistants

The Graduate School

- [The Graduate School's Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Affairs team](#) works with faculty and students to determine resources and next steps. This is often a good first step for any graduate student concern.

Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) (Storrs/Regionals)

- [SHaW](#) provides consultation appointments for students (via phone or telehealth), follow up services or referrals
- [Mental Health Resource Centers](#) at regional campuses serve graduate students
- [Online Suicide Prevention Training Program](#) (Ask, Listen, Refer)

Student Behavioral Health Service for UConn Health

- [SBHS](#) provides evaluation and treatment to graduate students at UConn Health

Student Care Team

- The [Student Care Team](#) is a multidisciplinary team that meets regularly to evaluate behaviors by University students that are perceived to be threatening, harming or disruptive to the student, to others or to both and coordinate an appropriate response. The Student Care Team does NOT respond directly to emergencies. Call 911 if you need emergency services.

Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD)

- The Center for Students with Disabilities Works with graduate students to determine appropriate and reasonable accommodations when there is a documented disability (they often collaborate with ShaW's Mental Health and Medical Care Services teams).

Academic Leave of Absence

- Graduate students may need to step away from their academic studies at some point during their graduate career. The temporary termination of student status consequently terminates GA employment. Students considering academic leave should reach out for more information and to explore other options, such as those listed above, that may help them stay enrolled. Academic leave is administered by Megan Petsa at The Graduate School.
- The Graduate School's [Voluntary Separations](#) page

Office of Faculty & Staff Labor Relations

- [Employee Relations overview](#)
- Provides guidance in employee relations areas such as performance management, employee counseling and progressive discipline. We coordinate with campus and external compliance offices to ensure that there is a prompt University investigation and response to incidents of serious workplace misconduct.
- Assists with questions regarding the collective bargaining agreements and University and state rules, policies, etc.
- Refers University employees and administrators to appropriate internal and external resources (such as the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the Office of University Compliance, the Department of Human Resources, etc.) to respond to workplace questions or concerns that are not appropriately addressed by the Office of Employee Relations.
- Alison Cutler specializes in the GEU contract (alison.cutler@uconn.edu)

Human Resources

- Circumstances may occur that prevent GAs (graduate teaching assistants, TAs, and graduate research assistants, RAs) from performing the duties of their appointment. [This link](#) provides general information and guidelines for advisors and department heads related to the administration of leaves of absence for graduate assistants.
- HR processes and facilitates requests for [employee workplace accommodations](#)
- The Absence Management team assists with leaves and workplace accommodations.
- Megan Stimson handles leave for GAs (megan.stimson@uconn.edu)

Employees of Concern (“EOC”) Team

- The [EOC](#) is an interdisciplinary team that meets regularly to evaluate behaviors by UConn employees that are perceived to be threatening or disruptive (to others, the employee or both) for the purpose of recommending appropriate interventions. The primary objectives of the team are to identify at-risk employees, connect them to appropriate resources and to promote a violence-free campus and workplace.
- The Employees of Concern Team does NOT respond directly to emergencies. Call 911 if there is a need for emergency services.
- Contact laborrelations@uconn.edu.

Employees Assistance Program (EAP)

- Storrs/Regional GAs: A free and confidential service for employees and their household dependents. [EAP](#) provides private assessment, brief counseling and/or referrals for additional services to assist with personal and/or work-related problems that could potentially impact job performance, health, mental and emotional well-being. Such concerns, amongst others, may include stress, financial issues, legal issues, family problems, office conflicts, and alcohol or substance abuse. EAP also works with supervisors and managers to provide proactive planning for, and intervention in, situations such as organizational changes and in response to traumatic events.
- UConn Health GAs: David Francis, LPC, LADC, CEAP (860-679-2877, fax: 860-679-0130, dfrancis@uchc.edu) or uchc_eap@uchc.edu.

The Ombuds Office

- The [UConn Ombuds](#) serves as a neutral resource who provides confidential and informal assistance to members of the UConn and UConn Health community.
- Provides a confidential, neutral resource for staff, faculty, Professional and graduate students and trainees to express concerns, identify options to address workplace conflicts, facilitate productive communication, and surface responsible concerns regarding university policies and practices.
- Contact: University Ombuds Jim Wohl (jim.wohl@uconn.edu); Assistant Ombuds for Graduate Students and Postdocs Cinnamon Adams (cinnamon.adams@uconn.edu)

Food Insecurity

- [Food resources near Storrs](#) that can help students experiencing food insecurity.