

CSB TA Teaching Excellence Award

The CSB TA Teaching Excellence Award recognizes the significant role of teaching assistants in the Department of Cell and Systems Biology and their key contributions to the learning experience of students. Recipients receive a certificate of recognition and a monetary gift.

Eligibility: Candidates for the award must hold, or have held, a Teaching Assistant or Sessional Instructional Assistant position in the Department of Cell and Systems Biology of at least 70 hours during 2024-25.

Who can nominate: Nominations are welcome from undergraduate students who are enrolled in a CSB course during 2024-25 where there is a teaching assistant. This includes courses such as BIO130, BIO230, BIO255, BIO260, BIO270, and BIO271.

Criteria: TAs must demonstrate excellence in teaching in most of the following areas:

- Demonstrates a keen interest and enthusiasm towards teaching and learning.
- Ability to effectively organize, structure and facilitate learning in the classroom, tutorials or labs.
- Actively engages, motivates, and challenges students.
- Uses teaching practices that advance accessibility, equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- Demonstrates depth of knowledge in the subject and effectively communicates complex concepts to students.
- Utilizes innovative teaching strategies and tools.
- Provides timely and constructive feedback to students.

Nomination process: Nomination letters must address two or more of the criteria outlined above with specific examples. Nomination letters in PDF format can be sent to undergrad.csb@utoronto.ca by **April 6, 2025**. Please include the full name of the TA and the course. A single nomination letter signed by multiple students from the same course is acceptable. Please include all names.

Additional information: Short-listed candidates may be asked to submit a CV, a teaching philosophy statement and letter of support from their course instructor. For more information, please contact undergrad.csb@utoronto.ca.