**Frequently Asked Questions
about the RA position**

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**1. Will I have control over what building I work in?**

**Building assignments are made based on your personality, and the needs of the buildings. Preference is asked during the application process, and all efforts are made to place staff where they wish to be.**

**2. What compensation will I receive for being an RA?**

**The most up-to-date stipend amount is listed in the RA job description. This is a stipend, not an hourly rate. This is figured on current minimum wage at the rate of 10 hours per week and given for 15 weeks per semester. RAs will also receive a room fee waiver, and a single room where available.**

**3. Do I have to stay at UMPI during breaks?**

**No. Staying during breaks is not required of any RA. There exists an opportunity for extra pay if an RA chooses to stay over a break and agrees to watch over their building. During the long weekends where the buildings are not closed, staffing patterns exist as usual.**

**4. I see RAs on "duty." What does that mean?**

**Every night that school is in session, there must be an RA available for the residents of their building. This is referred to as "duty." Duty runs from 8pm to 7am every day of each semester. Each of these nights, there must be an RA sitting at the front desk of each building from 8:00pm to 10:00pm. After 10:00pm, the RA can finish duty from their rooms. Duty lasts until 11:00pm Sunday through Thursday, and 1:00am on Friday and Saturday.**

**5. How many nights per week will I be on duty?**

**The amount of days a staff member is on duty is left up to the team in each building. In the past, staffs will set up a rotation which typically does not have a staff member on duty more than two to three nights per week.**

**6. Will being an RA effect my financial aid award?**

**It could. Being hired as an RA can affect your financial aid because it must be taken into account when the Financial Aid Office looks at your needs. Every student is considered on a case-by-case basis. The Financial Aid Office does their best to ensure that being an RA does not effect a student's financial aid in a negative way. Any Individual questions can be directed to the Financial Aid Office at 768-9510.**

**7. I have a job off-campus. Can I keep it and still be able to be an RA?**

**In the vast majority of cases, the answer is yes. Many RAs have other positions on and off-campus. The** [**job description**](http://www.umpi.maine.edu/reslife/raapplication/jobdescription.pdf) **states that the outside commitment should be limited to 10 hours per week or less. This guideline can be examined, and exceptions granted by the Director of Residence Life.**

**8. I am an athlete. Can I be an RA?**

**Yes. Many RAs have also been athletes.**

**9. I am an Education Certification student. Can I be an RA?**

**Yes. The Residence Life Office's policy is that we will hire the best candidates we can for as long as we can; even if it is for one semester. This is regardless of major or program.**

**10. Do RAs have roommates?**

**Typically No. On rare occasions, RAs have been assigned roommates in instances of overcrowding of the halls. RA rooms are the first rooms to be cleared once there are openings. Due to the requirements of the job, it is deemed necessary for RAs to be in single rooms.**

**11. Will I have to sign a contract?**

**Yes. Every RA must sign a contract that they will abide by the requirements of the position. Violations of this contract can result in termination from the RA position.**

**12. Will being an RA effect my privacy?**

**It can. The very nature of being an RA means that you are someone that residents can come and talk to in times of stress and crisis. Sometimes this means right before you are about to do something else, or while you are studying for a test. The spirit of teamwork among the staff in each of the halls means that this is kept to as much a minimum as possible.**