The Graduate Assistant role is a 12-month, part-time position that reports directly to an Area Coordinator and will assist in the development and implementation of community initiatives related to student staff and residence halls.

QUALIFICATIONS
Bachelor’s degree, residence hall experience, acceptance into a UNA graduate program

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Outstanding organization skills
- Ability to work independently and meet multiple task deadlines
- Ability to establish and maintain effective student and staff relationships
- Understanding of and commitment to a multicultural/diverse campus community
- Possess a strong understanding and commitment to the development of students
- Awareness of and commitment to the mission of Housing & Residence Life and University of North Alabama

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES
- Assist with the administration and managerial operation of a residential community.
- Enhance the living environment of the residence halls through staff and student development, resident outreach, community building, attention to facilities, and administrative organization.
- Participate in a variety of weekly meetings including departmental professional development meetings, business meetings, supervisory and committee meetings.
- Participate in a year-round duty rotation to provide support to the residential population and handle emergency/crisis situations as they arise.
- Other projects and duties as assigned by supervisor.

STUDENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RESPONSIBILITIES
- Provide programmatic and administrative support to professional and student staff.
- Advise the elected hall council officers and student staff to coordinate an effective hall organization and attend hall association meetings.
- Become acquainted with residential students and provide personal and administrative support necessary in developing an inclusive community environment.
- Assist in developing and maintaining an atmosphere conducive to study and community living, and encourage students to take responsibility for developing a community atmosphere utilizing community standards.
- Counsel, advise, and provide appropriate referrals for residents in need of professional services
- Apply conflict resolution skills and counseling techniques when responding to student crisis situations.
- Be familiar with and enforce the rules and regulations of the University and Housing & Residence Life.
Serve as a University conduct hearing officer for Housing & Residence Life. Address inappropriate behavior of students and in following due process, determine fair and appropriate sanctions. Make conduct and counseling referrals as appropriate.

Initiate change and develop and implement new ideas and concepts to improve the quality of life within the residence hall.

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Communicate regularly with Area Coordinators and Assistant Directors, providing accurate and detailed information, and keep supervisors informed of events in the hall on a timely basis.
- Maintain office hours as determined by departmental needs.
- Assist with opening and closing of residence halls each semester. Submit corresponding reports as necessary.
- Assist with facilitating residence hall operations including student room assignments, room changes, consolidation, and reapplication status.
- Tour and inspect facilities to ensure building safety and security; recommend modifications in policy and procedure to upgrade safety and security of facilities. Oversee health and safety inspections as necessary.

DEPARTMENTAL / DIVISIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Participate in university and divisional programs and events including, but not limited to, fall and spring preview days, welcome week, campus initiatives, SOAR, etc.
- Participate in departmental processes such as student staff selection and training.
- Assist in the coordination of on-going recognition of hall staff and community building efforts.
- Responsible for other duties as directed by supervisor and/or professional staff members.

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT

- Enrollment: Employment is contingent upon admission to a graduate program at UNA. As a condition for retention in the role, the Graduate Assistant must remain in good academic standing, which includes the following: 1) maintaining a minimum semester and cumulative GPA of 3.0 and 2) completion, each semester, of six (6) credit hours which apply towards graduation.
- Period of employment: Employment begins June 1st and runs through May 31st of the following calendar year. Graduate Assistants are hired under a provisional contract that carries a probationary period of one semester during which employment status will be reviewed. It is encouraged that GA candidates view the assistantship as a two-year commitment.
- Work Hours: The Graduate Assistant will work approximately 25 hours per week including evening and weekend commitments in addition to regularly scheduled office hours. Graduate Assistants are expected to be on campus at least two weekends each month. Graduate Assistants may not accept other employment during this contract period.
- Remuneration: A stipend of $500 per month for a twelve-month contract, on-campus apartment, meal plan/dining dollars, and tuition remission up to six hours per semester. The Graduate Assistant is obligated to adhere to the policies of their residential community, Housing & Residence Life, and University of North Alabama.
- Background Check: A criminal background investigation and employment history investigation will be performed prior to employment offer.