

# #19

**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, January 20, 2025 4:16:43 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, January 20, 2025 4:19:49 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:03:06  
**IP Address:** 75.25.163.251

---

Page 1: Please review the following:

## Q1

Contact Person:

Name	<b>Miriam Simpson</b>
Email Address	<b>miriam.simpson@gcccd.edu</b>

---

## Q2

Department:

Physics and Astronomy

---

## Q3

Title of Request:

Student Worker Support for Laboratory Operations and Teaching

---

## Q4

Location of Request:

H Building and F Building

---

## Q5

Type of Request (Select one):

Miscellaneous: All non-operational requests and requests that do not fall under staffing, technology, or facilities requests are considered other requests. For department operational needs, please discuss with your Deans office. Please specify miscellaneous request::  
Miscellaneous: Requesting student worker hours to provide critical support for labs, assist adjunct faculty, relieve workload from under-compensated chairs, and address staffing shortages.

---

**Q6**

Description of Request: Please provide a description of the supplies, equipment, furniture or other request. When making your request, please be as specific as possible and include information such as make, model, manufacturer, color, quantity, etc.

This request is for 100 hours annually (or a minimum of 40 hours if necessary) for student workers to support Physics and Astronomy labs, serve as teaching assistants, and provide relief for overburdened faculty and lab staff. This initiative also supports Earth Science and Engineering, which share lab resources, and aligns with our commitment to creating on-campus job opportunities for students.

Specific tasks include:

Adjunct Faculty Support:

Assisting adjuncts with lab setup, equipment troubleshooting, and providing additional help during sessions, enabling them to focus on teaching and mentoring students.

Relieving Overworked Chairs:

Chairs, who are severely undercompensated for their extensive work, often step in to cover lab-related tasks due to staff shortages. Student workers can mitigate this burden by taking on routine lab preparation and maintenance.

On-Campus Employment for Students:

Providing students with meaningful, supportive campus jobs eliminates the need for them to commute to less accommodating jobs, fostering a stronger sense of belonging and connection to their academic community.

Addressing Lab Understaffing:

Currently, labs are severely understaffed, with one shared lab technician supporting Physics, Earth Science, and Astronomy. This creates significant operational strain, especially with the return of more labs to in-person formats and the maintenance of dual-modality labs.

Filling Hiring Gaps:

Student workers can bridge gaps created by delays in hiring part-time and full-time lab technicians, ensuring continuity in lab operations.

---

**Q7**

Estimated Cost:

100 hours: \$1,800 annually (\$18/hour)

Minimum 40 hours: \$720 annually

---

**Q8**

Respondent skipped this question

Please attach quote, if available

---

**Q9**

Total Cost of Ownership: Your requested item may incur ongoing expenses. What are the ongoing expenses associated with your request? If there are ongoing expenses, please detail how you plan to support these costs with your existing budget by completing the text boxes below.

Initial Cost of Item	<b>\$1,800 for 100 hours (or \$720 for 40 hours) of student worker time</b>
Impacts to Staffing	<b>Provides critical relief for adjunct faculty and chairs while addressing lab understaffing.</b>
Other	<b>Supports student engagement by offering meaningful on-campus employment opportunities.</b>
Total	<b>\$1,800 (or \$720 minimum)</b>

---

**Q10**

Justification of Request: The justification of the request is a key area to focus on. The ROC encourages you to strengthen your request by providing a robust rationale detailing all relevant criteria. When writing the rationale, keep in mind that those reviewing the justification may not be familiar with your department and needs. Providing detailed information and context can help clarify the need for your request. Please select the applicable criteria(s) and provide the details of how the criteria(s) relate to your request.

**Health and safety,**

**Critical need,**

**Program expansion,**

**Impact on student success and access,**

**Innovation,**

**Equity and Antiracism,**

Provided details::

Health and Safety: Insufficient lab staffing increases safety risks in handling and maintaining equipment, particularly as more labs return to in-person formats. Student workers can help ensure equipment is properly maintained and safety protocols are followed. Critical Need: Enrollment growth in Physics and Astronomy (from 55.83 FTES in 2018 to 103.77 FTES in 2023, with sustained growth in 2024) has placed immense pressure on faculty and lab staff. Chairs, adjunct faculty, and the lone shared lab tech are stretched thin, impacting lab quality and student success. Program Expansion and Innovation: Supports innovative, equity-focused lab practices and ensures high-quality experiences in dual-modality labs, a key factor in UCSD articulation agreements. Relieves operational strain to allow for further program development and student-centered innovations. Impact on Student Success and Access: Directly improves the lab experience by providing real-time assistance, fostering better engagement and retention. On-campus employment supports students financially and academically, reducing external stressors that may hinder their success. Equity and Antiracism: Provides underrepresented students with access to supportive, meaningful employment that prioritizes their academic journey. Addresses equity gaps by ensuring labs are fully supported, enabling all students to thrive in hands-on STEM environments.

**Q11**

Program Goal: Please identify the program goal(s), as stated in your current annual or comprehensive program review, that this request would help your program achieve. Provide a brief explanation of how it would do so.

This request aligns with program review goals to:

Expand Lab Operations: Increase capacity to manage rising enrollment and the return of in-person labs.

Support Adjunct Faculty: Provide adjuncts with the resources they need to excel in teaching while addressing systemic inequities in faculty support.

Relieve Chair Workload: Enable chairs to focus on strategic program leadership rather than routine lab tasks.

Empower Students Through Employment: Create on-campus job opportunities that foster academic success and reduce socioeconomic barriers.

By approving this request, we can address staffing shortages, support faculty and students equitably, and ensure the continued growth and excellence of our programs. This initiative will make our labs safer, more accessible, and more effective in meeting the needs of our diverse student population.

---