

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

School of Arts and Sciences

Application for Support for a Research Leave
(for Assistant Professors only)

Name _____ Department _____

Dates of Appointment at the University of Pennsylvania:
Previous or Other Anticipated Leaves or Relief from Teaching (including source of salary support):

Dates of Requested Leave:

Salary Support Requested: Full _____ Half _____ Other Partial _____

Other Potential Sources of Salary:

Description of Work to be Undertaken During Leave:

Assistant Professor: Signature _____ Date _____

Endorsement of Department Chair: Must include plans for meeting department's teaching commitments during the period of leave, including those to interdisciplinary and interdepartmental programs.

Signature _____ Date _____

Endorsement of Dean: Signature _____ Date _____

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
RESEARCH LEAVES FOR ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

Introduction:

The demands of teaching and departmental responsibilities often hinder young faculty members' efforts to find the periods of concentration required to bring their scholarship to distinguished levels. While fellowships and grants provide some junior faculty members with opportunities to focus their energies on their scholarship, these resources are not uniformly available in all disciplines. Moreover, they cannot be forecast with confidence in any discipline; few junior faculty members can plan on the availability of such resources to support their scholarship. We believe that it is essential that all of our promising junior faculty members be given an opportunity to focus attention on their scholarship at some time during their probationary period. Moreover, we are convinced that it is important that these faculty members know from the time they join the School of Arts and Sciences that this opportunity will be made available.

The program we have developed is intended to guarantee that each assistant professor will receive, during the first five years of his or her appointment here, the equivalent of complete relief from teaching responsibilities for one semester. We anticipate that many junior faculty members will not need to seek support from this program. The program will, however, assure all promising junior faculty members that they can expect a period of concentrated scholarship prior to the end of their probationary period.

Description:

The School of Arts and Sciences may provide support, in the form of relief from teaching responsibilities, to Assistant Professors who have been reappointed in that rank. This support will normally be one semester (or equivalent) relief from teaching for any junior faculty member who has not previously been able to devote extensive time to his or her scholarship. Junior faculty members who have or have had support available from fellowships or grants may receive additional teaching relief for up to one semester (or equivalent). In no case, however, may a Research Leave be used to extend the total period a junior faculty member is free from teaching for more than one full year (or equivalent) during the first five years of his or her appointment. Research Leaves may be taken at any time between the beginning of the fourth year and the end of the fifth year of full-time service at the rank of Assistant Professor at the University of Pennsylvania. Faculty with tenure are ineligible for this category of leave, even if they do not take it while an Assistant Professor.

Procedure:

Assistant Professors who have been formally reappointed for a multi-year term after an initial appointment may apply to the School of Arts and Sciences for support for a Research Leave (SAS Form 99-23). An Assistant Professor who expects to request a Research Leave should discuss his or her plans with the department chair well in advance of the formal application deadline. The application for support for a Research Leave for an Assistant Professor must be presented to the Chair no later than one full semester before the beginning of the requested leave (by January 15 for leaves in the fall semester and by September 1 for leaves in the spring semester). The application should indicate the extent of the relief time requested and the specific work to be undertaken during the leave period. The endorsement of the Chair should indicate the extent of any previous teaching relief provided to the candidate and outline the department's plans to meet its teaching commitments during the period of the requested leave.