

SUMMER SALARY FAQs...

What is Summer Salary?

Summer salary is additional compensation that is only paid to full-time CUNY faculty members who perform research-related activities on their sponsored award outside of their nine-month academic appointment. Typically, summer salary is paid during the months of June, July or August

How is summer salary calculated?

To calculate summer salary simply divide your academic year salary by 9 and then multiply it by 3 (or the portion of the summer available to you after teaching, other duties, and/or vacation time have been accounted for).

Federal regulations specify that summer salary supported by sponsored programs must be "computed and paid at a percent effort rate not in excess of the faculty member's official annual base salary divided by the number of months in the period for which that base salary is paid."

Is it true that some agencies place caps on summer salary?

Yes. Certain agencies place caps on summer salary that can be paid to faculty members working on sponsored programs. For example, the National Science Foundation (NSF) limits salary compensation for senior project personnel to no more than two months of regular salary in any one year, including salary compensation received from all NSF-funded grants.

Do I have to be physically present at the University during the summer?

Faculty are generally expected to be at Hostos for the period of the summer salary support since summer salary is payment for research work conducted during the summer months. Generally, the only exceptions to this requirement is for travel to conferences, meetings with collaborators, or off-campus work (say at a data collection site or research institute elsewhere) that are directly related to the sponsored project that is providing summer salary support.

What happens if I am working on more than one sponsored program in the summer?

A faculty member may work on more than one sponsored program and receive summer salary from each one, provided that the total amount received does not push the faculty member's total summer compensation over the 30% threshold or 3 months.

What is the process for receiving summer salary on my grant?

Principal Investigators must initiate the process by submitting their summer salary appointment via the RF's electronic summer salary system. Our office will then review, approve or reject the submission. If rejected, we will contact you for further information. Further information and instructions are available on our webpage by clicking [here](#).

The summer salary deadline and payment schedule will be disseminated as soon as our office receives this information from RFCUNY.

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