ASC Policy on Course Release (Buyout) Rates

Updated October 19, 2022

Course Release (buyout) Rates

Dept. Course Load	1 st Course Buyout	2 nd Course Buyout	3 rd Course Buyout
4+	12% salary & benefits	20% salary & benefits	25% salary & benefits
3	15% salary & benefits	25% salary & benefits	
2	20% salary & benefits		

- The above rates apply to buyouts from outside of the college regardless of the source of funds. This includes university funds from outside of ASC and external sources, with or without full indirect cost recovery.
- The buyout rates are calculated based on the faculty member's 9-month base salary. The specific amount is determined by the number of courses bought out per academic year and the department's standard courseload. For instance, TIUs with a standard 4-course load per academic year require 12% of salary and benefits for the first course reduction, and an additional 20% for a second course release, and an additional 25% to buy out three courses (a total of 57% of salary and benefits to buy out three courses).
- Teaching reductions related to counteroffers, distinguished professorships, or terms of offer letter are excluded. For example, a faculty member in a TIU with a standard four-course load has a one course reduction for a distinguished professorship. This faculty member would be treated as if the courseload was three, i.e., the buyout rate is 15% for the first course above and beyond the reduction from the distinguished professorship.
- If the course release is purchased by funds originating outside of ASC, then 100% of the funds go to the TIU, unless an MOU or similar document calls for a split with another unit. The TIU must provide a replacement instructor.
- All resident full-time tenure-track faculty members not on leave or special assignment must teach at least one course annually. In other words, total course buyout cannot release a faculty member from all courses taught, regardless of teaching reductions related to counteroffers, distinguished professorships, or terms of offer letter.
- Policies for external fellowship subsidies are described in the External Fellowship Subsidy (EFS) Guidelines and Procedure document.
- Policy inquiries should be directed to office of Research Services, Jared Port, port.4@osu.edu.