

BRANDEIS FACULTY FORWARD (SEIU 509) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

The SEIU 509 contract with the Brandeis Administration, signed May 4, 2017, establishes a Professional Development Fund to which eligible Brandeis faculty, as defined by the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), can apply for support for “funding for professional development opportunities or resources that support their teaching at Brandeis” as described in Article 11 of the CBA.”*

OVERVIEW OF THE FUND: “Effective the beginning of each fiscal year the University shall contribute twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) to the Professional Development Fund each fiscal year. Any unused funds in one fiscal year shall not roll over to the next fiscal year.”

ELIGIBILITY: “To be eligible for Professional Development funds, a Faculty Member must teach a minimum of two (2) courses or its equivalence during the year in which the Faculty Member applies for Professional Development funds, and the Professional Development funds must be spent within that year. Eligible Faculty Members should have taught for at least one year at Brandeis prior to applying for these funds.” Year here refers to an academic year. A Faculty Member eligible to apply can receive only one award in a given academic year.

WHAT THE FUND SUPPORTS: Monies from the Fund are to be used to support professional development opportunities or resources that “enhance their professional development and, in turn, pedagogy at the University.” These activities can include (but are not limited to) conferences (e.g., registration, travel, and lodging), workshops/training, courses (e.g., tuition and books), books, membership dues to professional organizations related to one’s field of teaching, journal subscriptions related to one’s teaching not available through the Brandeis Library, and hardware and software that are related to one’s teaching. Per University policy, any equipment purchased with these funds is the property of the university.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND: In accordance with the CBA, “[r]equest for funds shall be submitted to a subcommittee of the parties’ Labor Management Committee, with an equal number of members from the Union and the University, once each semester,” to which a late Spring third application round was added to ensure that all available monies are awarded. The subcommittee is composed of two Brandeis Faculty Forward representatives and two Administration representatives. Members of the subcommittee will not be eligible, in the semester that they serve on the committee, to apply for these funds. In recognition that some eligible faculty teach in only one semester, approximately half the available monies will be awarded in the Fall Semester and the remainder will be awarded in the Spring Semester. Applications should be completed and submitted electronically via https://brandeis.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_engV6l6DegVZwzz. Note: some successful applications may be awarded partial funding.

* All quotations are from the Brandeis University-SEIU Local 509 PT-NTT Faculty Final Agreement, which can be downloaded at <https://www.brandeis.edu/humanresources/CollectiveBargainingAgreement/documents/Brandeis-SEIU%20Faculty%20Final%20Agreement-Signed.pdf> or <http://www.seiu509.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/77/files/2018/03/Brandeis-Part-time-CBA-2017-2020.pdf>.

The subcommittee's decisions are final.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2018-2019: Brandeis Faculty Forward representatives for Spring Semester are yet to be determined; the University is represented by Karen Muncaster, Vice President of the Rabb School of Continuing Studies, and Lorna Laurent, Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences.

PROCEDURES FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF APPROVED EXPENSES: Faculty will be reimbursed for approved expenses. After the event or purchase, receipts for all approved expenses should be forwarded to Rawda Aljawhary (raljawha@brandeis.edu) in the Provost's Office.