

**PolyU Academy for Interdisciplinary Research (PAIR)
Young Fellowship (YF) for Research Assistant Professors (RAPs)**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Part I - For Applicants

Q1.	What are the criteria for the scheme?
A1.	<p>The applicants should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be normally at the age of 30 or below, or at most 35 at the time of appointment; • possess a PhD degree in his/her field of specialism from a top academic institution, including HK, Mainland China, and overseas within three years prior to the application date of the post; • show strong motivation and potential in conducting interdisciplinary research; • have an excellent research track record in terms of publications and awards; and • be highly proficient in written and spoken English. <p>In addition, previous interdisciplinary and international collaboration as well as teaching experience would be an advantage.</p>
Q2.	How to apply?
A2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each applicant should firstly identify his/her PI in their target new research discipline and at least one Co-PI in the discipline of his/her PhD degree. The target PI and Co-PI(s) should come from more than one academic unit in which at least one of the PI/Co-PI(s) should be from his/her target host academic unit; • Each applicant should approach and engage the PI and Co-PI(s) in coming up with a maximum 10-page research proposal articulating his/her aspirations of interdisciplinary research. The names of PI and Co-PI(s) shall be included in the research proposal; and • The applicants should submit his/her application together with a detailed curriculum vitae and an interdisciplinary research proposal to his/her target host academic unit before the deadline. The academic unit may ask the applicants to submit other relevant supporting documents when needed.
Q3.	What are the eligibilities of PI/Co-PI?
A3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PI should be in a new research discipline which is different from the applicant's PhD research discipline. • The target PI and Co-PI(s) should come from more than one academic unit in which at least one of the PI/Co-PI(s) should be from the applicant's target host academic unit. • At least one Co-PI in the discipline of the applicant's PhD degree. • It is acceptable if the PI/Co-PI(s) are not currently affiliated with any Research Institutes / Research Centres of PAIR.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PI/Co-PI(s) should be the tenured faculty members (Associate Professor or above) of PolyU.
Q4.	What is “target host academic unit”?
A4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PAIR YF RAPs will be affiliated with an academic unit as the host academic unit. It is a unit where the candidate will teach in the third year of PAIR YF period and probably where he/she will pursue his/her long term career after successful completion of the PAIR YF. It is the academic department/school of PolyU. Research Institutes and Research Centres of PAIR are not considered as academic unit.
Q5.	If the candidate got the PhD degree from PolyU, will it be considered?
A5.	Yes.
Q6.	Is there any template for the research proposal?
A6.	There is no template. Applicants should approach and engage the target PI and Co-PI(s) in coming up with a maximum of 10-page research proposal articulating his/her aspirations of interdisciplinary research.
Q7.	When is the deadline for application?
A7.	Applicants should submit application to the target host academic unit before 28 February 2023.
Q8.	When will I know the application result?
A8.	The shortlisted candidates will be informed by the host academic unit in May 2023.
Q9.	Is there any interview for the shortlisted candidates?
A9.	<p>Yes. Upon receipt of the approval by the Strategic Academic Appointments and Development Committee (SAADC) in May 2023, the host academic unit will assess the research relevance and teaching capability of shortlisted candidate by going through the appointment process.</p> <p>The candidate will be officially offered the PAIR YF when the RAP position is confirmed by the host academic unit upon approval by the overseeing Senior Management Executives (SME).</p>
Q10.	Can I revise my proposed discipline after submission of the application?
A10.	No.
Q11.	Can the serving teaching staff/research staff of PolyU apply the scheme?
A11.	Any serving qualified staff who meet the application requirements are welcome to apply for the scheme.

Q12.	What are the duties for this post?
A12.	<p>The PAIR YF RAPs are expected to conduct interdisciplinary research and develop strong expertise in a distinctly new discipline that is different from their PhD discipline by working closely with a leading scholar in the new discipline.</p> <p>The PAIR YF RAPs have to teach one or two three-credit subjects or equivalent (Undergraduate/Taught Postgraduate subject) over their three-year period of PAIR YF. Teaching duties are to be decided by the host academic unit, not the Principal Investigator (PI)/Co-PI(s)/immediate supervisor/academic mentor. Their teaching duties arrangement will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) No teaching duties during the first year; (b) Optional teaching during the second year; and (c) One three-credit subject teaching in the third year as other RAPs under SHS.
Q13.	What are the terms of service?
A13.	<p>The initial appointment of the PAIR YF RAP usually is for 3 years. For the general information on terms and considerations for Appointment of Research Assistant Professor, please refer to https://www.polyu.edu.hk/hro/docdrive/careers/doc/RAP.pdf for details.</p>
Q14.	Will I appoint under an academic unit or Research Institute/Research Centre of PAIR?
A14.	Each PAIR YF RAP should be affiliated with an academic unit as his/her host academic unit.
Q15.	Is there any further appointment after the 3-year contract?
A15.	<p>By the end of the three-year PAIR YF, performance of the PAIR YF RAPs will be reviewed and those outstanding RAPs will be considered for a Professorial-track Assistant Professor (or Associate Professor) position.</p> <p>In case a PAIR YF RAP fails to be appointed as an Assistant Professor (or Associate Professor), subject to his/her performance, he/she may be considered for a further appointment as a RAP under SHS at the host academic unit without additional benefits/arrangements associated with PAIR YF, up to an aggregate appointment period of 6 years in total including his/her services as RAP and PAIR YF RAP.</p>

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