

## **Department of Sociology 6th-Year Funding Guidelines**

The College of Arts and Letters views a sixth year of funding as support for students on a trajectory for tenure track jobs. Budgets for a sixth year funding are limited, so only those students with excellent records will be eligible for sixth year funding. The department will make funding decisions based on a holistic review of the accomplishments thus far, the promise of the student's research agenda, and the available funding. In consultation with the College of Arts and Letters, the department has established some markers of potential. This is not a "checklist"--completing these does not entitle students to a sixth year. The Graduate Studies Committee will use these markers of potential in their assessment of sixth year funding requests.

### **Markers of potential:**

At a minimum, students applying for sixth year funding should have met all program deadlines in a timely manner. Ideally, students who seek sixth year funding should have a record that goes above and beyond our standard departmental requirements that demonstrates promise on the tenure track market. Students who have a publication in a top generalist journal or top specialty journal would be seen as good candidates--students with sole- and first-authored publications are especially noteworthy. In the absence of publications, we also value having an R&R at a top generalist or specialty journals, and/or having submitted multiple first-authored papers to good sociology journals by their fourth year. Seeking grants and fellowship are important practices for faculty, so we strongly consider students who have submitted applications for major grants or fellowships during their graduate career. Recognition by the field that your work is important is another indicator of future success, so having presented at regular sessions at top conferences marks potential. Paper awards from major professional associations are also indicators of research excellence. Finally, the quality and contribution of the student's research is another consideration. Faculty may judge a student's project to have the potential to make serious and important sociological contributions, especially when such ambitious projects require additional time to develop (e.g. international field research; ethnographic work; novel and time intensive analyses).

To request 6th year funding, please send the following to the Director of Graduate Studies:

- 1) A current CV.
- 2) A one-page letter formally requesting funding. In this letter please briefly discuss your project, progress thus far, and what work you still have remaining that requires a 6th year. In addition, the letter should address how your record thus far matches the markers of potential for a tenure-track job described above.
- 3) A letter of support from your dissertation chair (sent directly to the DGS).