Esri Policy for Long-Term Academic Visitors to Esri (e.g., Sabbaticals)

These guidelines govern the visit of an academic researcher to Esri for an extended period of time, serving to clarify roles and set appropriate expectations. The Chief Scientist will receive applications for such visits and facilitate approvals from Esri CEO Jack Dangermond and the Esri Directors accordingly.

**SPONSORSHIP:** It is highly recommended that the visitor have a sponsor, i.e., a specific person at Esri or a team that he/she would be working closely with. Examples include:

- the Director and staff of the Application Prototype Lab (APL) on new, innovative research or something directly applicable to a project that the APL is already working on.
- a lead product engineer in Esri Software Development or Software Products (including for the Geoprocessing & Analysis Team, the Spatial Statistics Team, the Projection Geometry/Geodetics Team, etc.);
- a lead for any of the Business Development Sectors and Industry Teams (e.g., Education, Geodesign, Health & Human Services, National Government, Natural Resources, Public Safety, etc.)
- a lead for an implementation or client consulting team within Esri Professional Services such as the Maritime Team, the Local Government & Transportation Team, the ArcGIS Online Basemap or Living Atlas Teams, etc.

In most cases, it is highly recommended that the sponsorship be prearranged, implying that the visitor has already had frequent communication with the sponsor, and developed common areas of research collaboration. However, this does not always need to be the case, especially with regard to the APL, where the Director has expressed interest in any application by an academic interested in Esri, regardless of who their sponsor might be.
TO APPLY: Visitor must submit two items:

1. a 2-3 page description of the research activities to be undertaken during the visit, including the details of the model or algorithm or curricular materials to be developed, and the resulting benefits for both the visitor and Esri. As such, the statement MUST reflect upon the anticipated benefits to Esri. This must go beyond just using our platform, as academics already presumably use our platform on a daily or monthly basis in various ways at their universities and organizations. As such, please describe in detail a vision for a practical outcome resulting from the visit that will likely benefit both your university and Esri (e.g., a new ArcGIS toolbox that Esri can leverage or market, a contribution to Esri’s existing MOOCs, Virtual Campus or other educational resources, an ArcGIS Online or GeoNet community presence that will involve Esri staff, a contribution to Esri’s Github catalog, etc.).

2. a 2-5 page CV. Any related peer-reviewed articles that have been published, or white papers that have been developed in relation to the project idea may also be included, but this is optional.

The statement must be submitted to the Chief Scientist for initial consideration before plans are made, and the Chief Scientist will contact the appropriate Esri team lead, verify with them their interest in the project, their ability to provide technical guidance to the visitor, and their belief that the project has merit.

At the conclusion of the stay, the visitor must submit a short report on their experience and progress, along with a signed pledge that Esri will be acknowledged in presentations and publications resulting from the visitor's time with the company.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: If the visitor develops a methodology or software while working on the Esri campus and with the guidance of Esri
personnel, intellectual property rests jointly with Esri, and with the visitor and/or with the visitor's university. Questions or concerns should be brought to the attention of the Chief Scientist (dwright@esri.com).

**LENGTH OF STAY:** The time period of visit (anywhere from 2 weeks to several months) should be determined in consultation with the sponsor and would depend on the activities to be undertaken. The visitor must arrange for his or her own housing in the local Redlands area.

**FUNDING:** The visitor must already have his or her own funding to cover salaries, travel, and living expenses during the visit (e.g., using sabbatical leave salary from one's university or a visiting researcher grant from NSF or other funding source). Lodging and relocation expenses are the responsibility of the visitor. Esri will provide assistance with locating affordable temporary housing, and will provide a small office space and Internet connection for the visitor on the Esri campus.

**STUDENT INVOLVEMENT:** If the visitor has a student that he or she would like to involve (e.g., a student skilled at software coding), Esri will make arrangements for the student to be hired on as a paid intern in order to work closely with the visitor and sponsor. The student must follow the internship application guidelines at [http://www.esri.com/careers/main/student-jobs](http://www.esri.com/careers/main/student-jobs), and indicate in the cover letter the connection to the visiting professor. The visitor must also be sure to notify the sponsor of the need to involve the student, especially so that the student's internship application can be routed accordingly.

**APPROVAL:** Final approval of the visit will be granted upon consultation with the Esri CEO and the appropriate director.