The RPT tenure clock operates on the academic year (July 1 to June 30). Assistant Professors are initially appointed for 4 years.

If a start date is after July 1 but before January 1, it counts as a whole year.

If a start date is after January 1, the tenure clock does not start until the following July 1.

Early in Year 3 (mid-September) you will get a letter from the VPAA* indicating that you are eligible for reappointment. The departmental RPT committee will review your RPT packet (usually in mid-January). They will make a recommendation to the department head. If the department head disagrees, he/she must provide written explanation to the RPT committee. Whatever the outcome, the department head writes a letter (favorable or unfavorable), copies you, and forwards the materials to the college-level committee, if applicable, and then to the Dean. The Dean also writes a letter (favorable or unfavorable), copies you, and forwards materials to the VPAA.*

Near the end of Year 3 the VPAA will make a recommendation on reappointment to the President and OSU Board of Regents. Final action is taken by the Board in June. Two possible outcomes exist: you are reappointed for three years (Years 5, 6 & 7) or reappointment is denied and Year 4 becomes your transition year at OSU.

Early in Year 6 (mid-September) you will get a letter from the VPAA indicating that you are eligible for tenure and promotion. Again, the department head should receive similar notification, but you should still notify the department head and start preparing your materials. The departmental RPT committee will review your RPT packet (usually in mid-January). They will make a recommendation to the department head. If the department head disagrees, he/she must provide written explanation to the RPT committee. Whatever the outcome, the department head writes a letter (favorable or unfavorable), copies you, and forwards the materials to the VPAA.

Near the end of Year 6 the VPAA will make a recommendation on tenure and promotion to the President and OSU Board of Regents. Final action will be taken in June. Two possible outcomes exist: tenure with promotion or both are denied and Year 7 becomes your transition year at OSU.

*For simplicity, the term VPAA (Vice President for Academic Affairs) has been used, but depending on when documents were published you might also see the position titled as Provost or Provost and Senior Vice President.