

Policy Title: Senior Faculty Status Program

Policy Summary: Requirements for Participation in Senior Faculty Status Program

Policy Category: Academic

Policy Owner: Provost

Policy Summary

This policy clarifies the requirements for participation in Drake University's Senior Faculty Status Program and is a restatement of Section 4.4 of the Drake University Faculty Manual.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish eligibility and participation criteria for faculty members interested in participating in Drake University's Senior Faculty Status Program.

Scope

This policy applies to full-time Drake University faculty members and is intended to reflect the provisions in Section 4.4 of the Drake University Faculty Manual.

Policy

Eligibility

The Senior Faculty Status Program is available for faculty members who meet the following provisions:

- (a) Give written notice of retirement simultaneously with approval of senior faculty status
- (b) Have a minimum of ten years of full-time continuous service;
- (c) Have reached the age of 60 by May 31 of the academic year previous to the participation year; and
- (d) Have not taken paid or sabbatical leave during the previous academic year or agree to two years at a reduced teaching schedule of two-thirds pursuant to the Senior Faculty Status Program.

This eligibility is not the same as eligibility for the University Retirement Benefits Program (Section 4.811). It is thus possible to be eligible for participation in the Transitional Leave program even if a faculty member is not eligible for the University Retirement Benefits Program.

Program Elements

The elements of the Senior Faculty Status Program are as follows:

- (a) The faculty member teaches the equivalent of two-thirds of a regular load (or a two-thirds service assignment for Library faculty);
- (b) Compensation is two-thirds of the regular salary;
- (c) Benefits are based on the full-time salary;
- (d) Advising and mentoring of students is expected;
- (e) The faculty member may be excused from committee service upon approval by the Dean; and

- (f) The maximum length of time a person may occupy senior faculty status is two consecutive years.

Senior faculty status requires approval of both the Dean and Provost. Approval will be granted only when senior faculty status is consistent with maintaining the quality and integrity of the academic program(s) involved.

Benefits Summary

If approved for the Drake Senior Faculty Status Program, the participating faculty member will continue to receive the same university benefits that he/she was eligible for while employed full-time at the university consistent with a nine-month academic appointment as detailed below. (If the faculty member holds a twelve-month faculty appointment, benefits are based on that contract.)

University benefits for faculty members who are on a twelve-month administrative appointment will be adjusted to reflect a nine-month academic year.

TIAA-CREF 403(b) Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (The Plan)

Subject to the provisions of the applicable plan document and applicable IRS Code provisions, the University will make contributions to the Plan on behalf of the participating faculty member on the basis of his/her base salary immediately preceding the beginning of participation in the Program (pre-Senior Faculty Status salary). For purposes of mandatory employee contributions under the Plan, however, the faculty member's contribution will be based on the base salary received during participation in the program.

Life Insurance

During participation in the Program, Life Insurance Benefits will be based on the base salary of the participating faculty member immediately preceding the beginning of participation in the program (pre- Senior Faculty Status salary).

Disability Benefits

In the event of disability during participation in the Program, disability benefits will be based on the salary of the participating faculty member immediately preceding the beginning of participation in the Program (pre- Senior Faculty Status salary). The maximum disability benefit duration payable for transitional leave employees will be two years.

Request for Program Participation

Participation in the Senior Faculty Status Program on an academic or calendar year basis is possible. An eligible faculty member may submit a written request to the Academic Dean on or before January 15 of the academic year previous to the participation year or by July 15 of the calendar year previous to participation. Every effort will be made to accommodate requests made by the established deadlines. Requests submitted after the deadline may be approved by the Academic Dean, so long as programmatic and university needs are met. If a delay in participation is necessary, the Dean and Provost will work with the faculty member to identify an agreed-upon participation date.

Last Review Date: March 2021

Effective Date: October 2003

Resources and Related University Policies:

- [Faculty Manual](#)