

Idaho State Board of Education

GOVERNING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION: II. HUMAN RESOURCES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Subsection: G. Policies Regarding Faculty (Institutional Faculty Only) February 2010

G. Policies Regarding Faculty (Institutional Faculty Only)

1. Letters of Employment

- a. All faculty employees serve pursuant to employment contracts. The employment contract must include the period of the appointment, salary, pay periods, position title, employment status and such other information as the institution may elect to include in order to define the contract of employment. Non-tenured faculty employees have no continued expectation of employment beyond their current contract of employment. Each faculty employee must acknowledge receipt and acceptance of the terms of the employment contract by signing and returning a copy to the institution initiating the offer of appointment. Failure or refusal of the faculty employee to sign and return a copy of the employment contract within the time specified in the contract is deemed to be a rejection of the offer of employment unless the parties have mutually agreed in writing to extend the time. Nothing in this paragraph prohibits the institution from extending another offer to the employee in the event the initial offer was not signed and returned in a timely manner. Any alteration by the employee of the offer is deemed a counter-offer requiring an affirmative act of acceptance by an officer authorized to enter into contracts of employment binding the institution. Each contract of employment must include a statement to the following effect and intent: "The terms of employment set forth in this letter (contract) of employment are also subject to the Governing Policies and Procedures of the State Board of Education (or the Board of Regents of the University of Idaho, in the case of the University of Idaho), and the policies and procedures of (the institution)."
- b. Term of Appointment - All non-tenured faculty employees have fixed terms of employment. No contract of employment with such an employee may exceed one (1) year without the prior approval of the Board. Employment beyond the contract period may not be legally presumed. Reappointment of a faculty employment contract is subject solely to the discretion of the chief executive officer of the institution, and, where applicable, of the Board.
- c. Non-tenured faculty and tenured faculty, who serve pursuant to contracts of employment or notices (letters) of appointment containing a stated salary are not guaranteed such salary in subsequent contracts or appointments, and such salary is subject to adjustment during the contract period due to financial exigency (as provided for in Section II.N of Board Policy) or through furlough or work hour adjustments (as provided for in section II.B.2.c of Board Policy).
- d. Faculty Rank and Promotion
 - (1) There are four (4) primary faculty ranks at each institution: (a) professor, (b) associate professor, (c) assistant professor, and (d) instructor. Each institution may establish additional faculty ranks, specify the title of each rank,

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and delineate the requirements for each faculty rank so established. Recommendations for additional faculty ranks must be submitted by the chief executive officer to the Board for approval.

- (2) Faculty rank, including initial appointment to faculty rank and any promotion to a higher rank at an institution, is located in a department or equivalent unit.
- (3) Each institution must establish criteria for initial appointment to faculty rank and for promotion in rank at the institution. Such criteria must be submitted to the Board for approval, and upon approval must be published and made available to the faculty.
- (4) Persons who have made substantial contributions to their fields of specialization or who have demonstrated exceptional scholarship and competence or appropriate creative accomplishment of recognized outstanding quality may be appointed to faculty rank without satisfying established institutional criteria for initial appointment or promotion, provided that the qualifications of such individuals have been reviewed in accordance with institutional procedures and the appointment is recommended by the chief executive officer and approved by the Board.
- (5) A non-classified employee may hold faculty rank in a department or equivalent unit in which rank has previously been established by the institution. A non-classified employee may be granted rank at the time of appointment or subsequent thereto, or may be promoted in rank, if such employee meets the criteria for rank as established by the institution and approved by the Board.

2. Compensation

a. Salary

All initial salaries for faculty employees are established by the chief executive officer, subject to approval by the Board where applicable. Payment in addition to regular salaries must be authorized by the chief executive officer and reported to the Board. The Board may make subsequent changes for faculty employee positions or may set annual salary guidelines and delegate to its executive director authority to review compliance with its annual guidelines. Any annual salary increase outside Board guidelines requires specific and prior Board approval before such increase may be effective and paid to the employee. With the exception of the chief executive officers, and other positions whose appointment is a reserved Board Authority, approval of salaries shall be effective concurrently with Board approval of annual operating budgets for that fiscal year.

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b. Salaries, Increases and other Compensation related items

- (1) For purposes of categorizing faculty employees for salary and reporting purposes, the following definition applies: Faculty includes all persons whose specific assignments customarily are made for the purpose of conducting instruction, research, or public service as a principal activity (or activities), and who hold the following academic rank or titles of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor, lecturer, or the equivalent of any of these academic ranks. Report in this category deans, directors, or the equivalents, as well as associate deans, assistant deans, and executive officers of academic departments (chairpersons, heads, or the equivalent) if their principal activity is instructional. Do not include student teaching or research assistants or medical interns or residents. (For reporting purposes, deans, associate deans, and assistant deans are included in the executive/administrative category.)
- (2) Credited State Service/Full Time Status - A faculty member employed for an academic year and paid over a twelve-month period will be credited with twelve (12) months of state service. For all benefit status determinations and calculations, faculty members shall be considered full time, year round employees of the employing institution as long as the employee's teaching; research and service duties are commensurate with the full time faculty work load assignment as defined by the employing institution.
- (3) Pay Periods - All faculty employees, including those on academic year appointments, are paid in accordance with a schedule established by the state controller.
- (4) Automobile Exclusion - Unless expressly authorized by Board policy, no faculty employee will receive an automobile or automobile allowance as part of his/her compensation.

3. Annual Leave

- a. Only faculty members serving twelve (12) month appointments earn annual leave. Such annual leave shall be earned in the same manner as for non-classified employees.

b. Sabbatical Leave

(1) Eligibility

A sabbatical leave may be granted at the discretion of the chief executive officer to a tenured faculty member (or a professional-technical faculty member) who has completed at least six (6) years of full-time service at an institution. A sabbatical leave may not be awarded to the same faculty

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member more than once in any six (6) academic years and sabbatical leave time is not cumulative. Sabbatical leave proposals must be submitted, reviewed, and processed according to policies and procedures established at each institution. A sabbatical leave may be used for the purpose of acquiring new professional skills and updating professional skills or conducting research. Sabbatical leave awards are fully dependent on the availability of appropriate funding.

(2) Term

The term of a sabbatical leave is either one (1) academic semester at full pay or two (2) semesters at half pay.

(3) Condition

Each faculty member who is granted a sabbatical leave must serve at the institution for at least one (1) academic year after completion of the sabbatical unless the chief executive officer approves a waiver of the requirement.

(4) Report on Sabbatical Leave

By the end of the first semester following return to the institution from a sabbatical leave, the faculty member must submit a written account of sabbatical activities and accomplishments to the academic vice president.

(5) Report to the Board

The chief executive officer must report the names of faculty members awarded sabbatical leaves and a brief statement of the purposes of each sabbatical in their semi-annual report to the Board

4. Performance Evaluation

- a. Annual Evaluation - Each year the chair of a department must submit to the dean of the chair's college an evaluation of each faculty member in the department. This evaluation, together with the input of higher administrators, will be used as (1) basis for the final recommendation relative to reappointment, non-reappointment, acquisition of tenure, or other personnel action, whichever is appropriate. The chairman must communicate an assessment of strengths and weaknesses to each faculty member evaluated.
- b. Evaluation Criteria - Evaluation of faculty should be made in terms of the individual's effectiveness. Each institution shall publish its criteria for annual evaluation and ensure that all members of the faculty have access to the criteria.

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- c. Any written recommendations that result from evaluation of a faculty employee will be given to the employee and a copy will be placed in the employee's file.
 - d. Each institution must develop policies, procedures, and measurement instruments to be used in the evaluation by students of faculty teaching effectiveness.
5. Non-renewal of Non-tenured Faculty Members
- a. Notice of non-renewal must be given in writing and in accordance with the following standards:
 - (1) First Year Of Service - Not later than March 1 of the first full academic year of service if the appointment is not to be renewed at the end of the academic year; or if a one-year appointment terminates during an academic year and is not to be renewed, at least three (3) months in advance of its termination.
 - (2) Second Year of Service - Not later than December 15 of the second full academic year of service if the appointment is not to be renewed at the end of the academic year; or, if the appointment terminates during an academic year and is not to be renewed, at least six (6) months in advance of its termination.
 - (3) Three (3) Or More Years Of Service – Not later than July 15 preceding the academic year at the end of which the appointment is to be terminated; or, if the appointment terminates during an academic year and is not to be renewed, at least twelve (12) months in advance of its termination.
 - (4) Failure to provide timely notice of non-renewal because of mechanical, clerical, or mailing error does not extend or renew the letter or contract of employment for another term, but the existing term of employment will be extended to provide the employee with a timely notice of non-renewal.
 - (5) Financial Exigency - Notice of non-renewal is not required when the Board has authorized a reduction in force resulting from a declaration of financial exigency and a non-tenured faculty member is to be laid off. In that event, notice of layoff must be given as provided under the policies for reduction in force.
 - b. Request For Review
 - (1) Non-renewal is not subject to investigation or review except that the employee may request an investigation or review to establish that written notice was or was not received in accordance with the time requirements set forth in this section. In such cases, the investigation or review will be concerned only with manner and date of notification of non-renewal. The employee must request such investigation or review in writing of the chief

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executive officer within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the written notice of non-renewal.

(2) Provided, however, that if the non-tenured faculty member presents bona fide allegations and evidence in writing to the chief executive officer of the institution that the non-reappointment was the result of discrimination prohibited by applicable law, the non-tenured faculty member is entitled to use the internal discrimination grievance procedure to test the allegation. In such cases, the same procedures, burden of proof, time limits etc. as set forth for the grievance of non-renewal by non-classified employees shall be used (see subsection F).

c. Non-tenured faculty members who are notified that they will not be reappointed or that the succeeding academic year will be the terminal year of appointment are not entitled to a statement of reasons upon which the decision for such action is based. No hearing to review such a decision will be held.

6. Tenure

a. Tenure Defined - Tenure is a condition of presumed continuous employment following the expiration of a probationary period and after meeting the appropriate criteria. After tenure has been awarded, the faculty member's service may be terminated only for adequate cause; except in the case of retirement or financial exigency as declared by the Board; in situations where extreme shifts of enrollment have eliminated the justification for a position; or where the Board has authorized elimination or substantial reduction in a program. Tenure status is available only to eligible, full-time institutional faculty members, as defined by the institution. All faculty appointments are subject to the approvals as required in Board policy. Nontenured members of the faculty are appointed to term appointments pursuant to subsection G.1. Any commitment to employ a nontenured member of the faculty beyond the period of his or her current term of appointment is wholly ineffective.

b. Acquisition of Tenure

(1) Professional-Technical Faculty hired under the division of professional-technical education prior to July 1, 1993 who were granted tenure may retain tenure in accordance with these policies. Individuals hired under the Division of Professional-Technical education subsequent to July 1, 1993 are hired and employed as nontenure track faculty and will:

(a) be afforded the right to pursue promotion;

(b) be considered and granted an employment contract in accordance with these policies and be subject to continued acceptable performance and/or the needs of the institution; and

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- (c) be afforded on opportunity to serve on institutional committees.
- (2) Academic faculty members, after meeting certain requirements, established by the employing institution, may acquire tenure. Each institution shall develop policies for the acquisition of tenure that are consistent with this general philosophy and policy statement of the Board. Acquisition of tenure is not automatic, by default or defacto, but requires an explicit judgment, decision, and approval. A faculty member is eligible to be evaluated for the acquisition of tenure after having completed four (4) full years of academic employment at the institution, although tenure may be awarded prior to completion of this initial eligibility period in certain exceptional cases (as provided in Board Policy II.G.6.d.4.a). In addition, an academic faculty member must be evaluated for the acquisition of tenure not later than the faculty member's sixth (6th) full academic year of employment at the institution. In certain exceptional cases a faculty member may petition for extension of the timeline for tenure due to extenuating circumstances (as provided in Board Policy II.G.6.d.4.b).
- c. Notification - An individual eligible for tenure must be informed, by proffered written contract, of appointment or nonappointment to tenure not later than June 30 after the academic year during which the decision is made. In case of denial of tenure, the faculty member must be given a written notice that tenure was denied.
- d. Standards of Eligibility for Tenure
 - (1) Annual Appointments - Until the acquisition of tenure, all appointments are made for a period not to exceed one (1) year. Prior to the award of tenure, employment beyond the annual term of appointment may not be legally presumed.
 - (2) Service in Professional Rank - All satisfactory service in any professorial rank may be used to fulfill the time requirement for acquiring tenure. Each institution must develop criteria and rules by which prior service may be evaluated for inclusion in experience necessary for acquiring tenure.
 - (3) Service in Instructor Rank - A maximum of two (2) years satisfactory service in the rank of instructor at the institution will be allowed in partial fulfillment of the time requirement in the professorial ranks. Faculty members who hold the rank of instructor may be eligible for tenure status if provided for by the institution even though they teach in fields that have established professorial ranks.

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(4) Exceptional Cases

- (a) Tenure may be awarded prior to completion of the usual eligibility period in certain exceptional cases. In such cases, the burden of proof rests with the individual.
 - (b) Extension of the tenure review period may be granted in certain exceptional cases. In such cases the faculty member must formally request such an extension and indicate the reason for the request. An institution that permits an extension of the tenure review period must include in its policies the procedure a faculty member must follow to request such an extension, and the basis for determining the modified timeline for review.
- e. Evaluation For Tenure - It is expected that the chief executive officer, in granting tenure, will have sought and considered evaluations of each candidate by a committee appointed for the purpose of annual evaluations or tenure status. Such committee must consist of tenured and non-tenured faculty; student representation; and one (1) or more representatives from outside the department. Each member of the committee has an equal vote on all matters. The committee must give proper credence and weight to collective student evaluations of faculty members, as evidenced by an auditing procedure approved by the chief executive officer. The recommendation of the committee will be forwarded in writing through appropriate channels, along with written recommendations of the department chairperson or unit head, dean, and appropriate vice president, to the chief executive officer, who is responsible for making the final decision.
- f. Award of Tenure - The awarding of tenure to an eligible faculty member is made only by a positive action of the chief executive officer of the institution. The president must give notice in writing to the faculty member of the approval or denial of tenure. Notwithstanding any provisions in these policies to the contrary, no person will be deemed to have been awarded tenure because notice is not given
- g. Periodic Performance Review of Tenured Faculty Members - It is the policy of the Board that at intervals not to exceed five (5) years following the award of tenure to faculty members, the performance of tenured faculty must be reviewed by members of the department or unit and the department chairperson or unit head. The review must be conducted in terms of the tenured faculty member's continuing performance in the following general categories: teaching effectiveness, research or creative activities, professional related services, other assigned responsibilities, and overall contributions to the department.

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- (1) Procedures for periodic review - Each institution must establish procedures for the performance review of tenured faculty members at the institution. Such procedures are subject to the review and approval of the Board. Each year the academic vice president or designee is responsible for designating in writing those tenured faculty members whose performance is subject to review during the year.
- (2) Review standards - Each institution may establish its own internal review standards subject to approval by the Board. Absent such institutional standards, the institution must use the following standards.

If during the periodic review, the performance of a tenured faculty member is questioned in writing by a majority of members of the department or unit, the department chairperson or unit head, the appropriate dean, the appropriate vice president, or the chief executive officer, then the appropriate vice president or equivalent administrator must decide whether a full and complete review must be conducted in accordance with the procedures established for the initial evaluation for tenure at the institution. If during the periodic review, the performance of a tenured faculty member is not questioned in writing, members of the department or unit and the department chairperson or unit head must prepare a written review statement that the performance review has been conducted and that a full and complete review is not required.

- (3) Exception for Associate Professors in the Promotion Process - Generally, the promotion from the rank of associate professor to full professor is considered no earlier than the fifth full year after attaining the rank of associate professor, which is generally contemporaneous with the granting of tenure. In such cases, if review for promotion to full professor is scheduled during the fifth, sixth or seventh full year after the award of tenure then the promotion review may, if it meets substantially similar criteria and goals of the post tenure review, take the place of the periodic performance review described here.
 - (4) Termination of employment - If, following a full and complete review, a tenured faculty member's performance is judged to have been unsatisfactory or less than adequate during the period under review, the chief executive officer may initiate termination of employment procedures for the faculty member. In other words, an unsatisfactory or less than adequate performance rating shall constitute adequate cause for dismissal.
- h. Dismissal for Adequate Cause - Tenured faculty members may be dismissed for adequate cause as provided for in Subsection L of this Section.

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i. Tenure for Academic Administrators

- (1) "Academic administrators," for purposes of this topic, means the chief academic officers of the Office of the State Board of Education and the institutions and the deans and department chairs and their associates/assistants of the academic units of the institutions, and shall not include persons occupying other administrative positions.
 - (2) An employee with tenure in an academic department or equivalent unit who is appointed to an academic administrator position retains tenure in that department or equivalent unit
 - (3) An individual hired for or promoted to an academic administrator may be considered for a tenured faculty rank in the appropriate department or equivalent unit. Such consideration is contingent upon approval by the institution's president.
 - (4) Upon termination of employment as an academic administrator, an employee with tenure may, at his or her option, return to employment in the department or equivalent unit in which he or she holds tenure unless such employee resigns, retires, or is terminated for adequate cause.
 - (5) An individual hired for a non-academic administrator position from outside the institution will not be considered for tenured faculty rank in conjunction with such appointment. However, he or she may be granted an adjunct faculty appointment, upon the recommendation of the appropriate department and dean and with the approval of the provost or chief academic officer and president, if the individual will teach and otherwise contribute to that department.
 - (6) Notwithstanding the above, each administrative employee who is granted tenure shall be reviewed in the same manner as tenured faculty
- j. Terminal Contract of Employment - If a faculty member is not awarded tenure, the chief executive officer must notify the faculty member of the decision not to recommend tenure and may, at his or her discretion, either issue to the faculty member a contract for a terminal year of employment, or, at the sole discretion of the chief executive officer, issue to the faculty member contracts of employment for successive periods of one (1) year each. Such appointment for faculty members not awarded tenure must be on an annual basis, and such temporary appointments do not vest in the faculty member any of the rights inherent in tenure and there shall be no continued expectation of employment beyond the annual appointment.

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- k. When authorized by the chief executive officer, or his or her designee, the year in which the tenure decision is made may be the terminal year of employment.
- l. Effect of lapse in service, transfer, reassignment, reorganization, and administrative responsibilities.
 - (1) A non-tenured faculty member who has left the institution and is subsequently reappointed after a lapse of not more than three (3) years may have his or her prior service counted toward eligibility for the award of tenure. Eligibility for the award of tenure must be clarified in writing before reappointment. A tenured faculty member who has left the institution and is subsequently reappointed after a lapse of not more than three (3) years must have tenure status clarified in writing by the president or his designee before appointment. The faculty member may be reappointed with tenure, or may be required to serve additional years before being reviewed for tenure status.
 - (2) Before a non-tenured faculty member holding academic rank is moved from one position in the institution to another, the member must be informed in writing by the academic vice president, after consultation with the receiving department, as to the extent to which prior service may count toward eligibility for tenure status.
 - (3) No faculty member's tenure in a discipline may be adversely affected by the reorganization of the administrative structure. A faculty member's tenure is not affected by reassignment of administrative responsibilities.
 - (4) When a tenured faculty member is serving as department chairman, college dean, or in some other administrative or service capacity, retention of membership, academic rank, and tenure in the subject-matter department or similar unit is maintained. Should the administrative or service responsibilities terminate, the member takes up regular duties in the discipline within which membership, academic rank, and tenure was retained.