

5.02.01.10 Faculty Emeritus



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Policy/Guideline Area

Personnel Policies

Applicable Divisions

TCATs, Community Colleges

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish the criteria and process regarding faculty emeritus at institutions governed by the Tennessee Board of Regents.

Policy/Guideline

- I. Faculty Emeritus
 - A. Faculty having served an institution governed by the Tennessee Board of Regents for a sufficient length of time to be eligible for state retirement benefits are eligible for emeritus faculty status upon retirement from the institution.

Procedures

- I. Procedures
 - A. Emeritus faculty status is not automatic upon retirement.
 - B. Emeritus faculty status is an honor bestowed for distinguished institutional service.
 - C. The President may nominate a retiring/retired faculty member for faculty emeritus on a quarterly basis. Although the nomination may be submitted just prior to the faculty member's retirement date, it may not go before the Board for approval until after such date.

- D. Each nomination must include justification for awarding emeritus status. A separate letter must be submitted for each nominee on official letterhead, which includes signatures from the President and HR Officer at the institution. The nomination letter should be sent via email attachment to the designated person at the system office who will route for signatures of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the Chancellor.
- E. In consultation with the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Chancellor will make the recommendation to the Board for approval.
- F. The title of Faculty Emeritus may be revoked if the emeritus faculty member engages in any of the following:
 - 1. Dishonesty in teaching or research;
 - 2. Conviction of any felony or of any crime involving moral turpitude; or
 - 3. Capricious disregard of accepted standards of professional conduct.
- G. The President must submit a written request to recommend revocation of the emeritus status using the on-line routing and approval system to include signatures from the institution President, HR Officer at the institution, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and the Chancellor. The Chancellor will make such recommendation for revocation to the Board for determination.
- H. Emeritus faculty shall be entitled to such privileges and benefits, other than monetary compensation, as their institution designates insofar as such privileges and benefits are within the limits of the institution's discretionary authority.
 - 1. Such privileges and benefits may include an identification card designating the holder as emeritus faculty and entitling the holder access to certain institution facilities and services commonly available to faculty.
 - 2. The privileges and benefits carry with them the same responsibilities required of regular faculty.

Sources

Authority

T.C.A. § 49-8-203

History

TBR Meeting, March 4, 1977; Revised at Board Meeting March 21, 2019; Ministerial revisions approved November 7, 2025, effective November 20, 2025.