

Voluntary Faculty

(Senate Council Approved Revision)

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R. Voluntary Faculty

Voluntary faculty members are those who have an official faculty appointment in an educational unit for which no salary is received and who devote part of their time to a program. Such faculty members usually are self-employed or hold full-time positions with other institutions and agencies. The procedures for appointment, reappointment and promotion of voluntary faculty at the various academic ranks generally parallel those for the regular or special title series, except for those prescribed below and that outside letters of evaluation, faculty letters of evaluation and reference to an Area Committee are not required for appointments, reappointments, and promotions.

1. A chair/division will bring the name, C.V. and completed Voluntary Faculty Application form of a potential voluntary faculty member to a regularly scheduled meeting of the unit faculty or, upon delegation by the unit faculty, a meeting of the faculty of a division within the educational unit. The chair/division chief will propose a suitable rank for the individual under consideration. The faculty will discuss the individual's background and credentials, and will vote on the candidate's suitability for the appointment at a specific rank.
2. If a three quarters majority of the faculty of the unit or division support the appointment, the chair, or as appropriate the division chief, will notify the dean.
3. The dean will appoint, by letter, the individual as a Voluntary Faculty member. The appointments will be annually renewed by the dean up to a five-year period, unless the voluntary faculty member had any licensure or malpractice issue, unless the dean received an unfavorable report, or unless a majority of the voting faculty of the department/division votes that the appointment not be renewed. The faculty of the department/division may at any time consider the qualifications of a voluntary faculty member for promotion to higher rank. Reappointment beyond five years shall be reinitiated as described in steps 1 and 2, above.
4. The chair or division chief will review the records and participation of the voluntary faculty on an annual basis to assess the level of involvement and any licensure or malpractice issues and will bring any individuals who the chair considers merit promotion to the attention of the faculty for consideration.
5. The dean will report all voluntary faculty appointments to the Board of Trustees at least on an annual basis.

6. In rare cases where the proposed voluntary faculty requires attending privileges at the University of Kentucky Hospital, the dean will forward the nomination to the Hospital Chief of Staff. The Hospital Chief of Staff will confirm that the individual has the appropriate credentialing and will initiate the internal process to obtain approval by the Board of Trustees.

Criteria for academic ranks of voluntary faculty shall be approved by the Provost, acting on the recommendation of the faculty of the initiating educational unit. Voluntary faculty are not eligible for tenure, usual faculty benefits, or membership in the University Senate. However, faculty membership, with or without voting privileges, may be extended to voluntary faculty by the educational units to which they are assigned.