

R854, Regents Professorships¹

R854-1 Purpose: To establish and provide guidelines for the administration of Regents professorships for outgoing presidents and commissioners of the Utah System of Higher Education (“USHE”).

R854-2 References

- 2.1 Utah Code § 53B-1-408, Appointment of Commissioner of Higher Education
- 2.2 Utah Code § 53B-1-402, Establishment of Board – Powers, Duties, and Authority
- 2.3 Board Policy R209, Evaluation of Presidents
- 2.4 Board Policy R481, Academic Freedom, Professional Responsibility, Tenure, Termination, and Post-Tenure Review
- 2.5 Board Policy R851, Guidelines for Retirement Programs
- 2.6 Board Policy R853, Transition and Retirement Provisions for Chief Executive Officers

R854-3 Policy

3.1 Eligibility: The Utah Board of Higher Education (“Board”) may award the title of Regents professor to a president of a USHE institution or commissioner of higher education who elects to assume or resume a faculty position after serving as president or commissioner for a period of at least seven years.

3.2 Appointment and Term of Service: With the agreement of the Board, the receiving institution, and the receiving department, an eligible individual may be appointed as a Regents professor by the Board for a period of three years. The Board may choose to add a three-year Regents professorship to the one year of reorientation leave under Board Policy R853, *Transition and Retirement Provisions for Chief Executive Officers*, or combine the two provisions so that the combined benefit does not exceed a three-year period.

3.2.1 Terms: The Regents professorship provides an office, telephone, personal computer, allowances for supplies and travel, and other privileges of an active faculty member. Regents professors shall provide an annual report of their activities to appropriate institution officers, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, and the Board.

¹ Approved April 24, 1998; amended September 10, 2004; and November 21, 2024.

3.2.2 Budget: The salary and benefits of Regents professorships shall be borne by the USHE institution at which the individual served as president or as commissioner. Funding shall be transferred to the receiving institution for the term of service of the Regents professor. Support and office costs of the Regents professorship shall be borne by the institution receiving service.

3.2.3 Salary: A Regents professor shall receive an academic year salary, not to exceed the level of a senior academic faculty member in the department or college to which the outgoing president/commissioner will be assigned. In cases where there are no academic faculty members in the unit to which the outgoing president/commissioner will be reassigned, the commissioner may be required to estimate the salary, based upon information from other USHE institutions, including the academic year salaries of senior faculty in disciplines related to the president's/commissioner's field of expertise. The salary amount shall not exceed 70% of the president's/commissioner's salary for the year prior to the effective date of the Regents professorship.

3.3 Transition: An outgoing president/commissioner preparing to assume a Regents professorship may request a period of professional development in which to prepare to return to the duties of a full-time academic faculty member as provided in Board Policy R853, *Transition and Retirement Provisions for Chief Executive Officers*. In addition to the provisions of Board Policy R853, *Transition and Retirement Provisions for Chief Executive Officers*, the outgoing president/commissioner is subject to the following:

3.3.1 Activity Plan and Agreement to Perform: The president/commissioner shall submit a proposal for the Board's review and approval describing a plan of activity during the leave, together with a written commitment agreeing to the performance of academic duties in the academic faculty position for at least one year after completion of the professional development period.

3.3.2 Terms of Transition Leave: Perquisites associated with the office of president/commissioner, including, but not limited to automobile, housing and host allowances, shall not be continued during the period of professional development. The costs, salary, and benefits payable to the outgoing president/commissioner during the transition leave shall be borne by the outgoing president's/commissioner's budgetary unit.