

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION HR Human Resources		POLICY NUMBER HR 2.02
POLICY TITLE Post-Retirement Employment		
SCOPE OF POLICY USC System		DATE OF REVISION September 18, 2024
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER Vice President for Human Resources		ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE Division of Human Resources

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PURPOSE

The University of South Carolina is committed to responding to staffing needs through strategic consideration of post-retirement employment.

DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS) is a defined benefit pension plan administered by the Public Employee Benefit Authority for eligible public employees of the state, higher education, and public school districts, as well as, counties, cities and municipalities and other local political subdivision and governmental entities.

South Carolina Police Officers' Retirement System (PORS) is a defined benefit pension plan administered by the Public Employee Benefit Authority for eligible police officers and fire fighters who are employed by counties, municipalities, and other local subdivisions in South Carolina and who participate in the plan.

South Carolina Public Benefits Authority (PEBA) is the state agency responsible for administering the five primary retirement plans, including the Optional Retirement Plan as well as the S.C. Deferred Compensation program, a supplemental retirement savings program.

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) is a position authorized by the General Assembly which is expressed as a numerical value as a percentage of time in hours and of funds.

Research Grant Position (RGP) is a type of non-FTE position which is funded by federal grants, private foundation grants, research grants, medical school practice plans, individual

private gifts, externally generated revenue for service testing activities and grant generated revenue or a combination of these funding sources. Employees occupying this type of position are exempt from the State Employee Grievance and Procedure Act.

Time-Limited Position (TL) is a type of non-FTE position which is funded by time-limited project funds authorized by the appropriate State authority.

Temporary Position is a full or part time non-FTE position for a period of time not to exceed one year.

USC Retiree is a USC faculty or staff member who retired from the SCRS or PORS, not including Optional Retirement Plan participants.

POLICY STATEMENT

This is the policy on employment of university faculty and staff following retirement in the South Carolina Retirement System (SCRS) and the South Carolina Police Officers' Retirement System (PORS) both administered by the South Carolina Public Benefits Authority (PEBA).

- A. Post-retirement employment of university faculty and staff is at the discretion of the university.
- B. Employment during a post-retirement appointment is at-will and may be terminated at any time, with or without cause, at the discretion of the university.
- C. Post-retirement faculty members are not eligible for appointment with tenure.
- D. Post-retirement employees do not have grievance rights pursuant to Section 8-17-370 of the SC Code of Laws, as amended.
- E. Post-Retirement Waiting Period
 - 1. To return to work, after retirement, retirees must have completed a bona fide severance or termination consisting of 30 consecutive days. After 30 days of retirement, the retiree may be hired by USC.
 - 2. Failure to wait the 30 consecutive calendar days will result in the suspension of retirement payments while the retiree remains employed by USC or another covered employer.
- F. Post-Retirement Earnings Limitation
 - 1. There is no earnings limitation associated with post- retirement employment for an employee who retired prior to January 2, 2013.
 - 2. Effective January 2, 2013, if an employee retires before the age of 62 from SCRS or age 57 from PORS and returns to employment with a covered employer, the retiree will be

subject to a \$10,000 earnings limitation. The earnings limitation applies regardless of the age at which the retiree returns to work. If the retiree continues to work after earning \$10,000 in a calendar year, their monthly annuity will be suspended for the remainder of the year.

G. Retirement Contributions

Any post-retirement employee who retired from one of the systems administered by PEBA and is re-hired by the university will be required to contribute to the South Carolina Retirement System in accordance with PEBA guidelines.

H. All full-time FTE, research grant positions RGP, and time-limited (TL) positions must be posted in accordance with policy HR 1.24 Recruitment and Appointment of Classified, Unclassified, Research Grant, and Time Limited Employees.

PROCEDURES

A. Appointments into Temporary Positions

1. With the approval of the appropriate Vice President, Provost or designee, or Chancellor, USC retirees may be employed in temporary positions for up to one year. For temporary positions reporting to the President or Board of Trustees, authority to offer post-USC retirement employment rests at that level.
2. USC retirees in temporary positions are not entitled to annual leave, sick leave, or other paid leave or holidays. Adjunct faculty may be approved for one academic year plus the summer.

B. Appointments into FTE, Time-Limited and Research Grant Positions

1. USC retirees may apply for any advertised vacancy for which they are qualified.
2. USC retirees may be hired into any FTE, RGP or TL position if it is a different position than previously held, with the approval of the appropriate Vice-President, Provost or Chancellor. In addition, the Division of HR must review and approve the hiring of any USC retiree in the same department from which they retired.
3. For positions reporting to the President or Board of Trustees, authority to offer post-USC retirement employment rests at that level.
4. USC retirees in FTE positions are eligible for annual leave, sick leave, and other paid leave and paid holidays.
5. USC retirees in RGP and TL positions may be eligible for annual leave, sick leave, other paid leave and paid holidays based on the grant.
6. The salary for USC retirees must be appropriate to the duties of the new position.

C. Renewal of Appointment

1. One-year renewals of temporary appointments may be offered as appropriate.
2. The same approval authority as outlined for original post-retirement employment is required to approve subsequent one-year temporary renewals. Adjunct faculty may be approved for one academic year plus the summer.

RELATED UNIVERSITY, STATE AND FEDERAL POLICIES

[SC Code of Law Section 8-17-370](#)

[HR 1.24 Recruitment and Appointment of Classified, Unclassified, Research Grant, and Time Limited Employees](#)

[HR 1.57 Separation from University Service](#)

[HR 2.01 Succession Planning](#)

HISTORY OF REVISIONS

DATE OF REVISION	REASON FOR REVISION
October 19, 2017	The revision to this policy ensures compliance with statutory changes to the retirement system, documents the institution's commitment to succession planning, includes a requirement for posting FTE positions, and revises the approval authority for post-TERI and post-USC Retirement employment.
April 12, 2018	The revision to this policy require review by HR when the department is wanting to rehire the post TERI or post USC retiree in a different position with the same department. The revision allows adjunct faculty to be rehired for the academic year plus the summer. Finally for rehires into FTE's, Time-limited positions and Research Grant positions when posted, the year to year renewals are not required. In addition, the policy has been formatted and the definition of USC employee has been added.

September 20, 2019	<p>New Policy</p> <p>Previously part of rescinded policy HR 2.00 Succession Planning and Post-Retirement Employment</p> <p>Post Retirement Employment Policy separated from the Succession Planning Policy.</p> <p>Clarification was added regarding the scope and frequency of succession planning.</p>
September 18, 2024	Removed references to the TERI program