

College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Criteria for Appointment to Graduate Faculty Membership
Revised for Fall 2022

Appointment to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Graduate Faculty recognizes significant scholarly and/or professional accomplishments and the ability to work constructively with graduate students. It confers upon a faculty member the authority to direct theses and dissertations, to serve on advisory committees for graduate students, and the right to participate in the governance of graduate education at the departmental, college, and university levels.

Recognizing that the nature of scholarly activities varies among academic disciplines and the recognized peer review process of the work that constitutes sufficient research activity to qualify a faculty member to mentor a graduate student, eligibility for membership on the Graduate Faculty is further defined by specific criteria developed by each academic college and approved by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Appointments to the Graduate Faculty are made by the Graduate Council, in consultation with the academic colleges, in accordance with the following general considerations:

Associate Membership (formerly Level One):

Associate Membership is available to individuals who hold a terminal degree and demonstrate evidence of scholarly and/or professional engagement. Holding Associate Membership qualifies individuals to direct master's theses and to serve on master's and doctoral committees.

Full Membership (formerly Level Two):

Full Membership qualifies individuals to direct both dissertations and theses and to serve on both master's and doctoral committees. The primary criterion for Full Membership (from the Graduate School perspective) is a consistent record of scholarly activities evidenced by peer-reviewed publications in strong professional journals, conference proceedings, and other venues commonly recognized by the academic community.

Criteria for appointment to the Graduate Faculty
specific to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences:

Associate Membership:

1. The candidate must hold a terminal degree in the appropriate discipline and must provide evidence of professional and/or scholarly engagement within the past five years in at least one of the following areas:

- a. Publication in refereed or peer-reviewed journals and/or conference proceedings
- b. Discipline-related presentations at regional/national/international meetings meetings/conferences/professional organizations and selected as part of a peer-reviewed process

c. Engaging in professional activities such as actively participating or holding offices in professional organizations, participating on panels, editing professional journals, peer-reviewing articles or books for an academic journal or press, serving as a consultant, receiving awards or honors, and other indications of professional activities relevant to the applicant's academic discipline.

Full Membership:

1. The candidate must hold a terminal degree in the appropriate discipline.
2. The candidate must provide evidence of at least three products in any of the three areas below within the previous 5-year period:
 - a. Publications (or in press) in refereed journals relevant to the discipline,
 - b. Published peer-reviewed books or book chapters relevant to the discipline and written for professional audiences
 - c. Funded extramural research or program grants and contracts.

Upon application for re-appointment, the candidate must also demonstrate the ability to serve as an effective mentor to students via the production of high-quality theses and/or DNP Synthesis Projects in the role of committee chair or committee member (as assigned); exhibit exceptional collegiality; and participate in graduate student activities which promote student success and highlight the achievements of the graduate program (e.g., DNP Synthesis Project professional presentations).

Additional Considerations and Specifications:

1. Research or scholarly contributions of new faculty, faculty with newly earned terminal degrees, and faculty with terminal degrees not on tenure track will be evaluated on an individual basis to determine whether the faculty member merits initial appointment at Associate or Full membership.
2. Graduate faculty membership is not required by the College of Nursing and Health Sciences to teach graduate courses at the master's degree level.
3. The above criteria apply to all College of Nursing and Health Sciences applicants, including continuing and adjunct faculty and/or researchers, directors, graduate coordinators, program directors, department heads, associate deans, and the Dean of the College. Faculty with approved administrative responsibilities are required to provide the same evidence of scholarly contributions as the faculty when applying for Graduate Faculty membership.
4. It is expected that graduate coordinators in the college meet or exceed expectations for Full Membership on the Graduate Faculty and retains that Full Membership throughout the term of appointment as graduate coordinator.
5. The College of Nursing and Health Sciences reserves the right to revoke graduate faculty membership to faculty members who may meet the criteria but who demonstrate poor mentoring

skills, exhibit poor collegiality, demonstrate continued production of low-quality theses and/or DNP Synthesis Projects and/or exhibit any other actions and/or activities detrimental to graduate students and/or the graduate program. The faculty member may lose Graduate Faculty membership by a majority vote of the College Faculty Peer-Review Committee. The loss of Graduate Faculty membership must be ratified by both the Department Head and the Dean of the College.

- a. On the first loss of membership, the faculty member may reapply for Graduate Faculty membership after a two-year period during which the faculty member has not served on the graduate faculty.
 - b. After a second membership loss, the faculty member will undergo a five-year period of not serving on the graduate faculty.
 - c. Once a third membership loss has occurred, the faculty member will be permanently barred from applying for or serving on the graduate faculty.
 - d. The faculty member may appeal to the Graduate Council and to the Provost. If the Graduate Council votes to reinstate Graduate Faculty membership and the Provost ratifies the decision of the Graduate Council, the College will support the decision for reinstatement.
6. These policies shall be reviewed, at a minimum, every five years.

Approved by Dr. Carolyn Bruder, Interim Provost and VP Academic Affairs, March 13, 2012.
Revisions approved by Dr. James Henderson, Provost and VP Academic Affairs, September 1, 2015.
Revisions made by the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Fall 2021.
Revisions approved by Dr. Jaimie Hebert, Provost and VP Academic Affairs, August 24, 2022.