PHASED RETIREMENT OPTIONS

Full-time tenured faculty members over the age of 65 may choose to phase out of full-time work by voluntarily reducing their effort to half-time for a limited period, followed by retirement.

Terms

• The phase-out period normally begins July 1; notification of the intention to phase out should be given six months in advance (that is, by January 1 of the year in which the phase-out will begin).
• The half-time effort includes the possibility of working full-time for one semester and taking the other semester away from campus.
• No sabbaticals will be granted during the period of reduced effort, nor will credit towards sabbatical leave be accrued.
• During the phase out period, the faculty member will receive half salary for half-time effort.1 Salary will be paid in equal installments (either 9 or 12 installments).
• During the phase-out period, the faculty member will be entitled to the regular benefits available to half-time benefits-eligible employees of the University.2
• Notification of the intention to phase out must specify one, two, or three years of reduced effort, with the understanding that the faculty member may, at his or her discretion, request that the phase-out period be reduced.
• The faculty member’s retirement will be effective on June 30 of the last year of the phase-out period.
• All applicable University policies will apply during the period of phase-out.

Eligibility

Full-time tenured faculty over the age of 65 with a minimum of ten years of service

• For those age 65–70 during the calendar year in which the phase-out period begins, a maximum of three years may be elected. A special salary supplement of $25,000 will be provided in each year of reduced effort during the phase-out period. This supplement is intended to offset any additional expense, including life insurance or other health or welfare benefits, incurred by the faculty member for benefit changes due to the change from full-time to half-time status. Contributions to retirement savings plans will be made on the salary supplement, as well as on the half salary.
• Faculty age 71–72 during the calendar year in which the phase-out period begins may elect a maximum period of three years. However, the special salary supplement of $25,000 will be paid in only the first two years of the phase-out period.

Other faculty members

• A phased-retirement option involving half-time salary for half-time work is available for any tenured faculty member age 65 or older. However, no special salary supplement will be provided to those who do not meet eligibility requirements regarding age or years of service. The maximum duration of such an arrangement is three years.
• Senior Lecturers may be eligible for a special phase-out plan. Interested individuals should contact the Provost’s Office to discuss such an arrangement.

Contact: Elizabeth Doherty, Senior Associate Provost (elizabeth_doherty@brown.edu; 863-7845)

1 Note that half-time status will be recorded as 0.51 FTE.
2 Although long-term disability insurance is not included in the regular benefits package for employees working half time, the university will provide up to one year’s medical leave (with continued half pay) in the event of documented medical conditions that make a faculty member unable to teach during the phase-out period.

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