

2020 COVID19 Enhanced Separation Program (CESP) Tenured Faculty Plan Description

Introduction/Overview

Plymouth State University is offering a COVID Enhanced Separation Program (CESP) to active tenured faculty. There is no guarantee a program like this or a similar program will be offered again. The application window for this program will commence immediately and run through October 15, 2020 and provide the option to propose an effective departure date no later than June 30, 2021. The application is subject to Senior Leadership approval (President and Provost), and Senior Leadership may, for any business reason, approve a separation date other than the proposed separation date submitted. Plymouth State University does not require eligible employees to elect this plan.

Eligible Employees must:

- Be a status (benefits eligible) tenured member¹
- Have 5 years or more of status (benefits-eligible) full-time service within USNH on or before the separation date
- Agree to separate from their employment at the date confirmed by Senior Leadership

Employees are Ineligible to apply if:

- Their position funding is shared between PSU and a grant(s)/outside entity and the grant(s)/outside entity pays more than 50% of the position budget.
- They are currently the subject of a disciplinary process with a Final Warning and/or Performance Improvement Plan
- They have a previously agreed upon termination or retirement date or are participating in the transition to retirement program
- They are classified as an Executive Officer or Academic Administrator of USNH

Employees will be deemed ineligible for CERP if at time of separation:

- They are not in active service
 - Including on a leave of absence due to a USNH disability program (STD, LTD) or Workers' Compensation
 - In one of the following programs:

Allied Health	Environmental Science & Policy
Business (all programs)	Nursing
Communications and Media Studies	Physical Therapy
Criminal Justice	Psychology
Elementary Education	Social Work

Enhanced Separation Program Components

- Incentive Payment
 - A sum equivalent to 1½ years of annual base pay² distributed over 39 pay periods beginning immediately after separation date
- Medical Coverage
 - Up to 1 ½ years of continuing medical coverage provided election is in place at time of application and immediately prior to separation date. Refer to below section 'Continuing Medical Coverage Details' for important information.
 - Waive Coverage Payment option: \$15,000
 - Employees under age 65 and enrolled as the subscriber in a USNH medical plan on the date they submit application and immediately prior to separation date are eligible for an additional \$15,000 one-time payment upon separation if they elect to waive medical coverage effective on their separation date. In waiving coverage, the employee will not be eligible to be covered as a dependent or spouse on another employee's USNH medical plan.

Continuing Medical Coverage Details

- USNH medical coverage for up to 1½ years, or to age 65, whichever comes first. Coverage will continue through the last day of the month before the employee's 65th birthday or the last day of the prior month if the birthday falls on the first of the month, whichever comes first. This medical coverage runs concurrent with COBRA. All insurance benefit plans and premiums are subject to change.

¹ Employees are ineligible if their position funding is shared between PSU and a grant(s)/outside entity and the grant(s)/outside entity pays more than 50% of the position budget

² Base pay, for purposes of the CERP, does not include stipends, overload, or any type of additional pay or bonus; CERP payments will not be recalculated to reflect changes in base salary or rate of pay that are implemented after application submission

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- Employees eligible for the Additional Retirement Contribution (ARC) or those hired with a date of hire after July 1, 1994
 - Coverage for your spouse/eligible dependents will end on the last day of the month before the employee reaches age 65 (or the month prior if the employee's birthday falls on the first of the month).

Additional Benefit Information

- 1994 ARC Participants (with no break in service) who do not meet the age requirement for the ARC guarantee eligibility may receive the difference, if any, of the minimum guarantee of \$10,000, plus \$,1,000 for each full year of service in excess of 20 years, reduced by employer contributions under the ARC program as a taxable cash payment.

Additional Program Details

- Interested employees should visit the Human Resources website at <https://campus.plymouth.edu/human-resources/employee-info/covid-19-enhanced-retirement-program-cerp-for-tenured-faculty/> for application materials.
- If employee separates under CESP, they are not eligible to reapply or be rehired into a benefited status, term, temporary or adjunct position within USNH, either full-time or part-time, with the exception of an adjunct faculty position at the request of PSU.
- Employee will have seven (7) days following the date of approval during which they can revoke the agreement. Once that period has passed, their signature is irrevocable.