Non-Salary and Deferred Compensation

A. Non-salary Compensation

1. Irrespective of the campus’ status regarding management flexibility in personnel, all constituent institutions and the General Administration shall have a policy concerning the granting of non-salary compensation for all personnel exempt from the State Personnel Act except for the chancellor and the president. The policy shall either provide specified non-salary compensation to a defined category of employees uniformly or shall require approval by the board of trustees or Board of Governors upon recommendation by the chancellor or president, respectively, regarding non-salary compensation granted to an individual employee before non-salary compensation is provided.

Each policy that provides specified non-salary compensation to a defined category of employees shall set out what types of non-salary compensation the campus or General Administration will provide, and the criteria for awarding such compensation. The awarding of non-salary compensation may be based on any reason or reasons considered relevant to attracting or retaining a faculty and staff of the highest possible quality. Decisions concerning non-salary compensation shall not be based in whole or in part upon any of the protected statuses included in Section 103 of The Code.

2. The funding source for non-salary compensation shall not be State funds, and non-salary compensation may be provided directly by an associated foundation if permitted by policy. An exception permitting non-salary compensation to be funded from State funds may be approved by a board of trustees or the Board of Governors only when permitted by the Office of State Budget and Management. Any club membership for an employee or the granting of special campus services or benefits must be job related, and the club must have a policy prohibiting discrimination against groups protected by federal and North Carolina law. Non-salary compensation shall be appropriately reported to federal and state tax agencies.

The hiring approval process may include payment of moving expenses in accordance with authority from the Office of State Budget and Management. The decision of whether to include payment of moving expenses in an employment offer may be delegated no lower than the provost/vice chancellor level or vice president level.

3. Provision of housing, when occupancy of the housing is required as a part of the job, reimbursement of professional- or work-related travel, and the provision of equipment to perform the work of the position, even if used at home, including computers, cellular phones, personal data assistants (PDA), pagers and similar work related items, are permissible and are not considered “non-salary compensation” as used in this policy.
B. Delayed or Deferred Salary/Compensation

The State of North Carolina and the University of North Carolina offer employees options for deferred compensation and insurance. Unless expressly approved by the Board of Governors, constituent institutions and the General Administration may not provide any other employer-paid options for deferred compensation or other delayed compensation to its employees.

For purposes of this policy, delayed and deferred salary or compensation shall be broadly defined to include, but are not limited to, any employer payment or contribution paid 1) directly to an employee, 2) to the employee’s account or plan, or 3) to a person acting in a capacity similar to a trustee for the employee, which is paid later than the regular or next subsequent payment cycle, except for an error that is promptly corrected upon discovery. Delayed and deferred salary/compensation also includes traditional 457 deferred compensation plans, any retirement plans or accounts, annuities, and life insurance accumulating any cash value. Delayed and deferred compensation also include both tax qualified and non-qualified plans, and any other similar form of payment, whether tax sheltered or not.

This policy does not prohibit a campus from making any permitted employer contribution to the Optional Retirement Program or the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System.

C. Non-salary or deferred compensation of Chancellors and President

Other than a State provided car or a car of comparable value, a chancellor’s or the president’s residence as provided for in Policy 300.1.5, work related club memberships, reimbursement of moving expenses upon initial employment as a chancellor or president, and benefits uniformly provided to all employees exempt from the State Personnel Act, only the Board of Governors may approve non-salary or deferred compensation for a chancellor or the president. The funding source for non-salary compensation for a chancellor or the president, other than that specified in this paragraph, shall not be State funds, but an exception may be approved by the Board of Governors. Club memberships may never be paid using State funds.

D. Employees exempt from this policy

Members of faculty medical practice plans, such as physicians, dentists, and veterinarians, are exempt from this policy. Athletic directors and head coaches remain subject to Policy 1100.3 and its guideline, and are exempt from this policy.

E. Review and Approval

Campus policies on non-salary and delayed/deferred salary/compensation must be submitted as a part of the campus request for management flexibility to appoint and fix compensation. Campuses already granted management flexibility in personnel shall submit their policies to the General Administration for review. Subsequent changes to the policies must be submitted for review by the General Administration prior to submission to the campus Board of Trustees for approval. In some cases, policies with extensive revisions will be reconsidered by the Committee on Personnel and Tenure of the Board of Governors.