SUMMARY OF BENEFITS - Faculty
LSUHSC School of Medicine
January 1 – December 31, 2017

Below is a generalized overview of the benefit programs available to faculty members at LSU Health Sciences Center.

**Retirement:** All new faculty members working 50% effort or above are required to participate in either the Teachers’ Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), or the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP). Employees contribute 8% of base pay on a pre-tax basis.

- TRSL is a defined benefit plan with retirement benefits computed on a formula based on years of service. Five years of service are required to vest a retirement benefit.
- ORP is a defined contribution plan. Benefits are determined by the value of the account at retirement. ORP provides immediate vesting and was created to provide faculty and unclassified staff with a portable retirement plan. Members of the ORP may NEVER become members of the TRSL. Participants have a choice of three carriers to select from: TIAA-CREF, VALIC and VOYA.

**Social Security:** The University does not participate in the Federal Social Security Retirement Program; however, all new employees are subject to the 1.45% Medicare portion of the Social Security tax.

**Vacation & Sick Leave:**

- **Choice of two Annual Leave Plans:**
  - The University annual leave plan allows for an accrual at the (full time) rate of fourteen (14) hours per month of annual leave with a maximum accrual limited to 176 hours during the first ten years of employment. After 10 years the accrual cap is lifted.
  - Faculty may elect the Civil Service annual leave accrual plan that allows for lower accruals of annual leave but does not have the 176 hour cap.
  - Election of an annual leave accrual plan is irrevocable and must be made within the first 30 days of employment. The University schedule is the default plan.
- Sick leave is accrued based on years of full time service. During the first three years of service, sick leave is accrued at the (full time) rate of one day per month.

**Health Insurance:** Faculty members working at 75% or more have a choice of health plans that includes the LSU First plans, Magnolia Local and Local Plus Plans, Magnolia Open Access, Pelican HRA and Pelican HSA775, and Vantage Medical HMO. The effective date of coverage is the first day of the month following one full calendar month of employment. A faculty member appointed on any day other than the first day of the month must be employed for the remainder of the month appointed, plus one full calendar month, before the health insurance would be effective.

Dependent Verification Requirement: If you elect to cover a spouse and/or children for health insurance the following documents must be presented with enrollment as proof of legal dependent status:

- Spouse – Certified marriage license and social security card
- Children – Certified birth certificate, certified adoption papers, court copy of judgment granting guardianship or custody and social security card

**Flexible Spending Accounts:** Faculty members are eligible to participate in FSA to cover eligible medical (dental, vision, hearing and prescription drugs) expenses that are not reimbursed by an insurance plan and eligible dependent care expenses. **Restrictions apply to members enrolled in the Pelican HSA775 health plan.**

**Miscellaneous Insurance Plans:** A variety of employee paid plans are available. They include several financial protection plans, long-term care plan, vision plan and dental plans.

**New Hire Orientation:** All newly appointed faculty members who are 75% effort and above are scheduled for a New Hire Orientation by Human Resource Management. This orientation process will provide you with detailed information regarding the available benefit choices.

Benefits options are subject to change due to changes in legislation or in contractual arrangements with the State, the University or LSUHSC.

Should you have any questions or need more specific information regarding benefits, please visit the Benefits Section of Human Resource Management’s website at [http://www.lsuhsc.edu/administration/hrm/](http://www.lsuhsc.edu/administration/hrm/) or call at 504-568-7780.

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