

## **AGREEMENT**

**EFFECTIVE:** September 1, 2024

**TERM:** September 1, 2024 - August 31, 2027

**BY AND BETWEEN**

**THE**

**COUNTY OF RENSSELAER**

(hereinafter referred to as the "County")

and the

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

(hereinafter referred to as the "College")

as co-employer

and the

**HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY FACULTY ASSOCIATION**

(hereinafter referred to as the "Association")

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## **ARTICLE I REQUIREMENT OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

IT IS AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT ANY PROVISION OF THIS AGREEMENT REQUIRING LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO PERMIT ITS IMPLEMENTATION BY AMENDMENT OF LAW OR BY PROVIDING THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS THEREFOR SHALL NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL THE APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE BODY HAS GIVEN APPROVAL.

## **ARTICLE II SAVINGS CLAUSE**

This Agreement shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the law; provided, however, that if any provision of this Agreement and/or any application of the Agreement to any employee or group of employees shall be found contrary to the law then such provision or application shall not be deemed valid and subsisting, except to the extent permitted by law, but all other provisions and/or applications will continue in full force and effect.

## **ARTICLE III MANAGEMENT'S RIGHTS**

Except as limited by the specific and express terms of this Agreement, the County and the Board of Trustees hereby retain and reserve unto themselves all rights, power, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred and invested in them by laws and the Constitution of the State of New York and/or the United States, including the right to adopt rules, regulations and policies.

## **ARTICLE IV PAST PRACTICES**

This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements and past practices relative to all matters herein contained. All past practices, duties and responsibilities, if any, relative to matters not subject of this Agreement affecting terms and conditions of employment shall remain in full force and effect.

## **ARTICLE V RECOGNITION AND DUES DEDUCTIONS**

### **A. Recognition**

The Public Employment Relations Board of the State of New York, having duly determined that the Association has been lawfully designated as exclusive representative for the purposes of collective negotiations in a unit including all teaching faculty in the employ of the employer with the academic rank of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor and professor; also educational specialists and librarians, full or part-time; part-time instructional faculty of credit bearing courses, and will exclude all others. The College hereby recognizes the Association as the exclusive representative of the employees in the said unit for the purposes of negotiations regarding wages, hours and terms and conditions of employment, and in the settlement of grievances, and for all lawful purposes under the laws of the State of New York. Such recognition shall continue for the maximum period allowed by law.

## **B. Dues Deductions**

The College agrees to deduct from the salaries of the employees in the faculty unit, year to year on a continuing basis, the Association dues pursuant to plans certified by the Association as any member thereof shall individually and voluntarily authorize in writing on forms prescribed by the Association and to remit the same promptly to such Association. Such authorization may be revoked by instrument in writing and the College will promptly notify the Association of the receipt of such revocation.

## **C. Agency Shop**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 208(3)(b) of the Public Employees' Fair Employment Act ("Act"), the College agrees to deduct from the pay of each employee who is a member of the bargaining unit, but who is not a member of the Association, an amount equivalent to the Association dues that are authorized, levied and collected from the general membership. Such agency fee payers shall have available through the Association, but not through any grievance procedure contained in this Agreement, a refund procedure as required by §208(3)(b) of the Act.

## **D. Indemnification**

The Association shall indemnify the College, the Board of Trustees, and the County and hold them harmless against any and all claims, demands, suits or other forms of liability that may arise out of, or by reason of, any action caused by the misconduct, negligence, or any other acts of the Association in connection with the provisions of this Article.

# **ARTICLE VI NON-DISCRIMINATORY APPLICATION**

The provisions of this Agreement shall be applied equally to all employees eligible for membership in the bargaining unit without discrimination as to age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, political affiliation, or disability.

# **ARTICLE VII PROFESSIONAL OBLIGATIONS**

## **A. Primary Duty of a Faculty Member**

The primary duty of faculty members at Hudson Valley Community College is teaching as opposed to pure research and other forms of academic endeavor. Teaching implies a responsibility on the part of the individual faculty member to stay abreast of developments in their particular field of endeavor, and to present subject matter for the enlightenment of students. It also implies an interest in the welfare of students, at least insofar as their classroom experiences are concerned. By signing their agreement with this institution, the faculty member indicates an intention to devote themselves earnestly to the teaching of students of various abilities at the community college level and to act in

a manner that is consistent, at all times, with the objective of the College. Non-college work shall not conflict with a faculty member's primary duty and responsibilities.

**B. Freedom in the Classroom**

1. Faculty members are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject and in reporting the truth as they see it, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject.
2. Both the College and the faculty member recognize the informal atmosphere of the classroom. By so doing, they recognize that such an atmosphere is closely related to freedom in the classroom and, because of this, the happenings of the classroom shall not be made public by the College or by the faculty members without the consent of the other.

**C. Compliance with College Regulations**

Faculty shall comply with the College regulations for students, visitors and College personnel and shall support College efforts to achieve compliance therewith unless the College regulations are inconsistent with this Agreement.

**D. Research and Faculty Prepared Materials**

1. Faculty are entitled to full freedom in research and the publication of the results thereof subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties. The conduct of any research and/or the publication of the results thereof by a faculty member requiring the use of College facilities, equipment, supplies, or personnel shall be predicated on the advance written agreement between the concerned faculty members and the President of the College or their designee.
2. Except in such instances where job content requires the development of materials, all patents or copyrights on materials developed by faculty members authorized pursuant to paragraph (1) hereof or independently developed shall be and remain the property of the faculty member involved. Faculty prepared materials may not be sold to students of Hudson Valley Community College except by written agreement between the President of the College or their designee and the faculty member involved.

**E. Work Year**

1. The work year of the faculty, one hundred fifty-one (151) days inclusive of graduation., shall be as follows:

September 3, 2024 – May 17, 2025

September 2, 2025 – May 16, 2026

August 31, 2026 – May 15, 2027

The foregoing work year does not apply to librarians and education specialists whose work year is 184 days distributed between September 1 and August 31 of each academic year. In

the event graduation occurs prior to the concluding dates heretofore set forth, faculty shall submit to the appropriate supervisor all student grades and other reports and materials in accordance with the schedule published by the College. Compliance with the foregoing by faculty shall constitute completion of the work year. Faculty will not be required to be on campus when classes are not in session except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.

2. All full-time faculty shall attend the commencement ceremony unless excused by the appropriate division dean.
3. All faculty members shall be required to attend Department, Division and all College-wide meetings in the Fall and Spring semesters.

#### **F. Work Day**

Except as otherwise provided in Article VII I (8), the work day of the faculty shall be from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Whenever possible, consistent with the educational objectives of the College and other provisions of this Agreement, faculty will be scheduled in less than a continuous eight (8) hour span. Unless waived in writing by an individual faculty member, in all cases, classes shall be assigned over a period of not more than eight (8) hours.

#### **G. Individual Course and Schedule Assignments**

1. The College shall, on a semester by semester basis, at least five months prior to the beginning of each semester, establish a master instructional schedule setting forth all courses to be offered and their meeting times and locations.
2. When known, the faculty of each department shall be informed, at least five (5) months prior to the beginning of each semester, in writing, or by e-mail, by their department chair of the courses and meeting times to be taught by the department during the upcoming semester.
3. By submitting the course preference form, which is attached as Addendum A to this Agreement, which can also be found on the Human Resources Website, full-time faculty shall advise their department chairs of their course and meeting times preference (inclusive of voluntary overload) for the upcoming semester within fifteen (15) days of being informed of the course and meeting time offerings set forth in paragraph G (2).
4. Subsequent to the receipt of course preference forms, if requested to do so in writing, department chairs shall meet individually with their faculty to discuss their course and meeting time preferences. Following all such meetings, or the waiver thereof, department chairs shall, subject to approval by the division dean, make decisions on which courses will be taught by the faculty of their departments. Such decisions shall be predicated on each faculty member's appropriate instructional experience, professional background, stated course preference(s) and credentials in relation to departmental course offerings. Faculty will be informed of their preliminary course and meeting time assignments in writing. If a faculty member's request cannot be honored, upon request, they shall be informed of the



reasons therefore in writing. Newly hired faculty will not be afforded any preference under this section during their first semester of employment.

5. Full-time faculty shall be notified of their course and meeting time assignments by June 1 for the Fall semester and by December 1 for the Spring semester. Course and meeting time assignments may be changed prior to the beginning of a semester due to unforeseen circumstances involving enrollments or faculty availability.

#### **H. Class Schedule Changes**

Faculty must meet their classes as scheduled except as provided for in the following:

1. A change in the time or location of a single class meeting must have the prior authorization of the faculty member's department chair.
2. All changes in the time and/or location of more than a single class meeting must have the prior authorization of the faculty member's department chair and division dean.

#### **I. Teaching Load**

1. Faculty members teaching courses without laboratory sections may be assigned up to thirty-three (33) contact hours, with no more than six (6) courses per academic year. Within the Communications Knowledge area of General Education, however, no English faculty member shall be required to teach more than ten (10) sections (30 contact hours) during any academic year. The ten (10) sections will be divided equally between the semesters, i.e. five (5) sections per semester. This is based upon a three (3) credit hour course model. In the event that other than three (3) contact hour courses are developed, the College will make every effort to schedule an equal amount of contact hours in each semester. In no event will such faculty member be assigned more than sixteen (16) contact hours per semester and more than thirty (30) contact hours per academic year.
2. Faculty members teaching courses with laboratory sections may be assigned up to thirty-three (33) contact hours per academic year; four (4) courses wherever possible with a maximum of five (5) courses per academic year. The number of students assigned to a particular laboratory section shall be based upon (a) the skills to be acquired by the students; (b) instructional techniques necessary for the acquisition of such skills; (c) equipment, supplies and/or materials to be used in the laboratory; and, (d) the physical limitations of the room in which the laboratory is to be conducted.
3. Contact hour credit for field work supervision will be on a ratio of one (1) hour of load credit for every two (2) hours of required supervision. Twenty (20) students per section shall be the maximum student load where field work experience is required and scheduling of sections will continue as heretofore.
4. Faculty teaching assignments will be limited to three (3) courses and eighteen (18) contact hours per semester with no more than five hundred (500) student contact hours per

semester. However, to accommodate students from courses which are cancelled due to insufficient enrollment by the President or their designee during the week prior to the first day of classes each semester and students who register during the first week of classes, the College may assign faculty members up to five hundred and ten (510) student contact hours in a semester. In any event, a faculty member may not be assigned more than one thousand (1,000) student contact hours in an academic year.

5. A faculty member may waive, in writing or by e-mail to their department chair, the course preparation restriction for a semester or for an academic year.
6. Not more than one (1) faculty member will be assigned to teach the same numbered and lettered section of the same course without the prior written consent of each such faculty member.
7. For faculty members in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Exercise Studies any course taught in the major subject within the Physical Education department shall count as one (1) preparation. All service courses taught in the physical education irrespective of the subject or course number, shall count as one (1) preparation.
8. Every effort shall be made to schedule faculty into a full-time teaching load prior to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Faculty members for whom a full-time teaching load cannot be compiled prior to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday shall be assignable to teach courses after 6:00 p.m., or to the other departments and/or divisions if qualified and if openings exist, or to weekend assignments. Not more than one (1) course will be required in the evening or on Saturday or Sunday as part of the full-time load except for faculty members for whom a full-time load cannot be compiled with the single course limitation. Under no circumstances may the College assign a course after 6:00 p.m. or on Saturday or Sunday to a faculty member for punitive purposes.
9. An optional overload (voluntary on the part of the faculty member) shall be permitted beyond the thirty-third (33rd) contact hour and any faculty member accepting such voluntary overload shall be compensated therefore at the voluntary overload rate set forth in Article XII, Section G hereof. Voluntary overload assignments prior to 6:00 p.m. may be authorized provided the faculty recommended for such assignments are carrying full teaching loads and the course(s) in question could not otherwise be assigned to another faculty member qualified to teach the course(s) as part of their regular teaching load. In any event, the College has no obligation to assign such available courses to full-time faculty volunteering for such courses.
10. Faculty members may leave campus prior to the end of the work day if all obligations to the College for that day are completed.
11. Voluntary Direct Study Option. A "Directed Study" section is an instructional section in which four (4) or fewer students are enrolled prior to the first day of classes in a semester, as indicated on the Instructional Calendar.

- a. The College may offer a faculty member a “Directed Study” section prior to the start of an academic semester. Acceptance of a “Directed Study” section is purely voluntary and within the sole discretion of the Faculty member. The College shall offer the option to teach a “Directed Study” course only to full-time faculty who are already assigned full teaching loads for the current semester. The “Directed Study” section shall not count toward a faculty member’s teaching load.
- b. Compensation: The faculty member accepting a directed study teaching opportunity shall be compensated for teaching a specific “Directed Study” section at one-half (1/2) the standard number of contact hours for the course (e.g., for a four (4) contact hour course shall be compensated at the rate of two (2) contact hours).
- c. Procedure: Prior to offering a faculty member a “Directed Study” section, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall consult with the President of the Faculty Association (or designee). Offers of directed study and acceptance of directed study offers shall be in writing between the faculty members and their Department Chairperson, with a copy provided to the Association.
- d. Section Size Limits: If a faculty member accepts a “Directed Study” teaching option, and if enrollment in the course subsequently increases to five (5) or more students through late registration, the course status will revert to regular overload and the Faculty member shall be compensated at the then-current full overload rate. Additionally, an overload course in which enrollment subsequently drops to fewer than five (5) students after the first day of classes, for any reason, shall continue to be paid at the full, then-current overload pay rate.
- e. Maximum Number of Directed Study Sections: The maximum number of directed study sections offered at the College shall not exceed five (5) per semester or ten (10) per academic year.
- f. Termination: The Directed Study program shall terminate on August 31, 2027.

**J. Reduced Teaching Load; Reduced Salary and Benefits**

1. With the prior approval of their department chairperson and the College administration, teaching faculty with ten (10) or more years of full-time service with the College may request to take a reduced teaching load. Such reduction of load, if approved, shall be in combinations of three (3), four (4), or five (5) contact hours. A department's total course offering shall not be reduced because of the requests for reduced load.
2. During the semester of reduced load, the base salary, leave and all other applicable benefits as hereunder provided for faculty members shall be reduced by twenty percent (20%) for each reduction of three (3) contact hours; twenty-five percent (25%) for each reduction of four (4) contact hours; and, thirty percent (30%) for each load reduction of five (5) contact hours and/or combinations thereof.
3. Requests for reduced teaching load assignments must be made on forms provided for this purpose by the College and submitted by October 1st for load reductions to be effective in the upcoming Spring semester and by March 1st for load reductions to be effective in the upcoming Fall semester. Such forms, along with guidelines describing how this provision

will be implemented, are available from department chairs and/or the Director of Human Resources.

**K. Faculty Availability**

1. Full-time faculty shall set aside no less than one forty (40) minute period, in the same modality as the course, for each assigned course throughout the week so that faculty is readily available to students. Faculty shall post their schedules on their office doors and/or if applicable on their digital course page and shall file a copy with their department chair. If the faculty member solely teaches distance learning courses, they are required to post their schedule on their digital course page.
2. Part-time faculty and Full-Time faculty who accept optional overload assignments shall be available to students for at least one forty-minute (40) period for each course taught.
3. During this time, students may solicit assistance in problems they may be experiencing in courses offered by the faculty member and faculty member advice regarding alternative course selections in a discipline. As time permits, the faculty member may also address other matters of interest to their students.

**L. Student Advisement**

1. During the fiscal year (September 1, 2014 - August 31, 2015) the College may, at its discretion, employ faculty to assist department chairs with—general student course advisement including course selection advisement and/or in association with the student course selection, scheduling and/or registration process. Faculty wishing to be considered for employment as student advisors shall so inform their department chairs in writing on forms provided by the College for this purpose.
2. Employment as a student advisor shall be upon the recommendation of the appropriate department chair and approved by the division dean. Such employment shall be on a semester-by-semester basis and non-reappointment shall not be subject to review under the grievance machinery of the Agreement.
3. Faculty employed on a part-time basis as student advisors for 2014/2015 shall be compensated at a rate of \$39.71 per hour with payment based on approved timesheets submitted.
4. All services rendered as a student advisor shall be in addition to the availability requirement stipulated in Article VII, Section K hereof.
5. Effective September 1, 2015 Student Advisement is no longer a function of this agreement.

**M. Time for Meetings**

A free period of two (2) consecutive hours each week will be included in the master schedule to provide time for meetings of various organizations, including student organizations, campus

committees, the Faculty Association and other groups. The time to be assigned for the same shall be discussed with the Association before the master schedule is finalized.

#### **N. Class Cancellations**

In the event that day and/or evening classes are cancelled because of inclement weather or other emergency, faculty members will not be required to report to campus for the period of time covered by the day and/or evening class cancellation.

### **ARTICLE VIII TEXTBOOKS, SUPPLIES, RECORDS, AND MATERIALS**

#### **A. Selection of Textbooks and Teaching Materials**

1. Textbooks and other teaching materials shall be selected by the faculty member involved in teaching a specific course. Teaching materials may include, but are not limited to, grading rubric, z-grade policy, ADA compliance, course objectives, course outlines, examinations and final projects. Department chairs, deans and vice presidents can periodically review and, when necessary, collect such teaching materials. Department chairs, deans and vice presidents shall not release any materials, with the exception of course outlines, course objectives, final exams and final projects, to another faculty member unless the faculty member whose materials were reviewed and collected consents to such release. Faculty textbook selections shall be made by April 1 for the Fall semester and by October 1 for the Spring semester. The College shall inform faculty members and Department Chairs of the availability of textbooks at least one week prior to the start of classes.
2. In instances of courses with multiple sections, the majority of full-time faculty members teaching the course must agree upon the text to be used. In the case of a tie the department chairperson shall cast the tie breaking vote.
3. Selection of textbooks and teaching materials, as defined in subsection (1), shall be subject to the approval of the department chairperson and division dean. If disapproved, the department chairperson or division dean shall, if requested, supply written reason(s) for such action.
4. Notwithstanding the provisions of (A) (2) above, when necessary for sound and compelling educational reasons, a faculty member teaching a non-high school program with multiple sections may use a text which is different from the text approved by a majority of the faculty members teaching the course if the majority of the faculty members teaching the course recommend an exception and such recommendation is approved by the responsible Department Chairperson.
5. Notwithstanding the provisions of (A) (2) above, the selection of textbooks for courses taught in the College in the High School program shall be made by the high school subject to the annual approval of the responsible Department Chair based on whether or not the text content maintains course integrity.

### **B. Desk Copies of Textbooks**

If delivered from the publisher or in stock at the College Bookstore, desk copies of textbooks to be used in the upcoming semester will be available to faculty in need of such books no less than two (2) weeks before classes begin.

### **C. Ordering Supplies**

Faculty members will order supplies, in accordance with established procedures, on forms provided by the College for this purpose.

### **D. Submission of Records (i.e. attendance, student grades and time sheets)**

Each faculty member shall timely submit to the appropriate supervisor grade and other records (i.e., attendance and time sheets) as required by the College. This provision does not require multiple preparation or submission of records by any faculty member. Failure to timely submit such records may result in the deferment of salary installments as provided in Article XII (F) until such records are submitted. Except in the instance of lump sum payments pursuant to Article XII (F)(2)(a), ten (10) days advance written notice of an installment deferment will be provided the faculty member. In the event of a deferment of salary pursuant to Article XII (F)(2)(a), the College will notify the affected faculty member prior to deferment.

## **ARTICLE IX LIBRARIANS, EDUCATION SPECIALISTS**

### **A. Librarians**

1. Librarians shall be accorded the benefit(s) of all applicable sections of this Agreement (e.g. evaluation, academic rank, tenure, leaves, salary, etc.) and shall be employed on the basis of one-hundred and eighty-four (184) working days between September 1 and August 31 with a thirty-five (35) hour work week.
2. Work schedules shall be equitably structured to assure adequate coverage for library services throughout the calendar year. Consistent with the functional needs of the library, librarians' vacation time will be based on the stated preferences of the librarians. Librarian assignments will be made by the Director of the LRC based on the needs of the library, the qualifications and preference of the librarian, and the requirements of the library. Where there is a conflict between stated preferences, length of service as a librarian will dictate which stated preference will be honored.
3. In the event that librarians are assigned to teach a specific library related course, one (1) hour of course contact hour credit will count as the equivalent of two (2) hours toward the thirty-five (35) hour requirement stipulated in paragraph "1" of this Article. Should such assignments be made, they will have no bearing on the capacity of affected librarians to fulfill all reference desk coverage assignments.

4. A full-time librarian appointment is defined as a librarian who works more than twenty-five (25) hours in a week.
5. Part-time/adjunct librarians shall be paid at a rate of \$38.03 per hour effective September 1, 2024  
Part-time/adjunct librarians shall be paid at a rate of \$39.75 per hour effective September 1, 2025  
Part-time/adjunct librarians shall be paid at a rate of \$41.54 per hour effective September 1, 2026

**B. Education Specialists**

1. Education specialists shall be accorded the benefits of all applicable sections of this Agreement (evaluation, academic rank, tenure, leaves, salary, etc.) and shall be employed on the basis of one-hundred eighty-four (184) working days between September 1 and August 31 with a thirty-five (35) hour work week.
2. Work days shall include all days on which classes are in session or the center is open. Additional work days shall be discharged between the Fall and Spring semesters and/or during the summer months and shall be as recommended by the education specialists and approved by the appropriate department chair and/or administrator.
3. Work schedules shall be equitably structured to assure adequate coverage for . education specialist services throughout the calendar year. Education specialist assignments will be made based on the stated preferences of the education specialists. Where there is a conflict between stated preferences, length of service as an education specialist will dictate which stated preference will be honored.
4. A full-time education specialist appointment is defined as an education specialist who works more than twenty-five (25) hours in a week.

Part-time education specialists shall be paid at a rate of \$38.03 per hour effective September 1, 2024

Part-time education specialists shall be paid at a rate of \$39.75 per hour effective September 1, 2025

Part-time education specialists shall be paid at a rate of \$41.54 per hour effective September 1, 2026

**ARTICLE X  
PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**

**A. Equal Employment Opportunities**

It is the policy of Hudson Valley Community College that applicants shall receive equal opportunity for employment, and upon employment shall be treated equally regardless of race, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, political affiliation, disability or national origin. This policy relates

to all actions related to but is not limited to employment, upgrading, promotions, demotions, transfers, lay-offs, terminations, training, and rates of pay and/or other forms of compensation.

**B. Notice of Vacancies**

One (1) copy of each vacancy in bargaining unit positions (acting, temporary or permanent) shall be delivered to the President of the Association, and all such notices shall be posted on the College's website. Notices of vacancies which occur during the summer months shall also be communicated by mail to the faculty who request the same on a form provided by the College. Faculty members shall be given priority consideration in filling such vacancies.

**C. Opportunity for Joint Meeting and Recommendation**

At such time as persons are being interviewed for positions on the faculty, an opportunity for a joint meeting involving the candidate(s), department chairperson and faculty of the appropriate department will be provided. The recommendation of the faculty will be submitted to the department chairperson and the Vice President for Faculty and Academic Affairs.

**D. Recruitment Qualifications**

If requested by the College, faculty from the department where a vacancy is to be filled shall participate in the development of minimum educational and experiential requirements for the filling of such vacant faculty position(s). Should the required academic credential(s) and/or non-Hudson Valley Community College experience for consideration of the award of tenure be different than the stated minimum educational and experiential requirements required for consideration for initial employment to a vacant faculty position, the College's official notice of vacancy shall explicitly state the required academic credential(s) and/or experience that must be documented to the College for tenure consideration. Such vacancy notice shall be attached and made a part of the initial salary agreement for new probationary faculty who do not possess at the time of their initial appointment the required academic or experience requirements established for tenure consideration.

**ARTICLE XI  
APPOINTMENTS TO PROFESSIONAL STAFF**

**A. Temporary Appointments**

1. Temporary appointments are made to positions not expected to be permanent. Such appointments are for fixed terms not in excess of one (1) academic year.
2. A full-time temporary appointment is defined as a faculty member with an instructional assignment of more than twelve (12) semester contact hours for the period of appointment; or more than 25 clock hours per week if a librarian or education specialist.
3. Faculty holding full-time temporary appointments shall be entitled to full health benefits contained herein and up to twelve (12) of consolidated leave (or the appropriate pro rata share thereof for appointments of less than one (1) academic year). Consolidated leave may



be used for personal illness, death in the immediate family, and, subject to the provisions of Article XVI, Section C (Personal Leave) for urgent personal business that cannot be deferred. Faculty holding full-time temporary appointments shall not be entitled to other leaves, paid or unpaid, long term disability insurance coverage nor shall their termination be subject to review under the grievance procedure. For the purposes of this paragraph, immediate family is defined to include spouse, children (including foster and step children), grandchildren, parents, grandparents, foster parents and/or blood relatives residing in the same household.

4. Time served by a full-time temporary faculty member shall, to a maximum of two academic years, be considered time under probationary appointment and the benefits (annual consolidated leave [up to 24 days] and health insurance selection) for such service shall be continuous, provided that the full-time temporary service is immediately followed by probationary appointment.
5.
  - a) Except for persons notified in writing and employed to replace tenured faculty having permanent rights to a position (e.g. extended medical leave), full-time temporary appointments may be extended for no more than three (3) consecutive terms.
  - b) For faculty, other than librarians and education specialists, such appointments may be for successive semesters, successive academic years or semester(s) and an academic year.
  - c) For librarians and education specialists, such appointments may be for any continuous period spanning up to three successive academic years.
  - d) In those instances where a faculty member, other than a librarian or an education specialist, begins full-time temporary service during or after the fourth week of class, the initial semester shall not count toward the limit on consecutive full-time temporary appointments.
  - e) For librarians and education specialists, all time worked in a given academic year counts towards the limit on full-time temporary appointments.
  - f) Except as limited above, a faculty member, other than a librarian or an education specialist, who assumes or starts a full-time temporary position during a semester, subject to the provisions of this article, Section C, is entitled to all wages and benefits accorded other full-time temporary appointments.
  - g) Except as limited above, a librarian or an education specialist who assumes or starts a full-time temporary position at any point in the academic year, subject to the provisions of this article, Section C, is entitled to all wages and benefits accorded other full-time-temporary appointments.
  - h) At any time during a school calendar year the number of full-time temporary faculty appointments shall not exceed ten (10) employees on such temporary terms.

## **B. Probationary Appointments**

1. All faculty members will serve a probationary period of not more than five (5) years prior to being granted tenure. However, the probationary period for transferees from other institutions of higher education within the State University of New York, in which tenure had been achieved, shall be reduced by years of tenured service at such institutions;

however, such transferees shall be required to serve a minimum of three (3) years of probation at Hudson Valley Community College prior to being granted tenure.

2. Faculty members on probationary status whose appointments are renewed from year to year, will be granted tenure upon renewal of their appointments beyond their probationary period.
3. All faculty members who are granted tenure appointments shall hold their respective positions during good behavior and competent and efficient service.
4. Tenure shall remain in effect if and while a faculty member assumes an administrative position or is employed in a position funded by grant or contract funds.

### **C. Substitutions**

A part-time faculty member, other than a librarian or an education specialist, who assumes a teaching load of more than 12 contact hours and completes at least five (5) consecutive weeks of instruction, OR a librarian or an education specialist who assumes a weekly schedule of more than 25 hours for at least five consecutive weeks shall be entitled to all wages and benefits accorded to other full-time temporary appointments retroactive to the beginning of the appointment. If, at the outset of the appointment, the duration is known to exceed five (5) weeks, appropriate full-time payment and benefits will be afforded from the beginning of the appointment. Such appointments shall be terminated only by return of the permanent incumbent or by other condition(s) which would terminate any regular appointment, but in no event shall the appointment be terminated to avoid payment of wages and benefits due to full-time temporary appointees.

## **ARTICLE XII SALARIES**

### **A. Faculty Covered by this Agreement**

Effective September 1, 2024, the base annual salary of each returning full-time tenured and probationary faculty member from 2023/2024 who has a base salary of less than fifty-three thousand (\$53,000.00) shall be brought to a salary of fifty-three thousand (\$53,000.00) or shall be given a four percent (4%) increase on their base salary; whichever is the greater. The base annual salary of each returning full-time tenured and probationary faculty member from 2023/2024 who has a base salary of more than fifty-three thousand (\$53,000.00) shall be increased by four percent (4%).

Effective September 1, 2025, the base annual salary of each returning full-time tenured and probationary faculty member from 2024/2025 shall be increased by four and one-half percent (4.5%).

Effective September 1, 2026, the base annual salary of each returning full-time tenured and probationary faculty member from 2025/2026 shall be increased by four and one-half percent (4.5%).

### **B. Minimum Instructor's Salary**

Effective September 1, 2024 the base salary for each full-time faculty member with the rank of Instructor shall not be less than \$52,000.00.

Effective September 1, 2025 the base annual salary for each full-time faculty member with the rank of instructor shall not be less than \$52,500.00.

Effective September 1, 2026 the base annual salary for each full-time faculty member with the rank of instructor shall not be less than \$53,000.00.

### **C. Promotions**

Effective September 1, 2021, upon promotion in rank, the base salary of a faculty member shall be increased as follows:

From	To	Increase for Promotion
Instructor	Assistant Professor	\$1,500.00
Assistant Professor	Associate Professor	\$2,500.00
Associate Professor	Professor	\$3,000.00

The promotion in rank increase shall be added to the faculty member's base salary before any other yearly salary increase is calculated.

### **D. Merit**

Effective for the 2024/2025 year and during each year of the subsequent term of this agreement the College in its discretion shall select no less than three (3) but no more than eight (8) full-time faculty members to whom merit is awarded. Merit awards will be added to base salary. At least one faculty member shall be chosen from each school (Business/Liberal Arts, Health Sciences, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math [STEM] or Educational Specialists and Librarians).

For Merit Awards, the College shall consider criteria which shall include but is not limited to teaching excellence, student service, professional development, service to the College, earned advanced terminal degree, service to the community or special project/initiative/grant, and mentorship of newer faculty. The amount of the award shall be based on years of service.

For this section only, years of service is calculated based on probationary appointment date.

<i><u>Years of Service</u></i>	<i><u>Merit Award</u></i>
1-10 years inclusive	\$2,000.00
11-15 years inclusive	\$2,500.00
16-20 years inclusive	\$3,000.00
More than 20 years	\$3,500.00

In addition, up to five (5) adjunct faculty members per year shall be awarded merit. Merit will be \$500 each and will be paid by separate check.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall determine the recipients of merit. The College shall not award merit to the same faculty member more than once per five (5) years. Denial of merit shall not be subject to review under the grievance procedure in the Agreement.

**E. Annual Salary Agreement**

1. Every faculty member shall receive an annual salary agreement consistent herewith, setting forth their academic rank and salary.
2. Salary agreements shall be signed and returned by each faculty member within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt. Timely execution and return of the salary agreement shall constitute acceptance and acquiescence of the terms and provisions thereof by the faculty member; failure to do so shall constitute a resignation.

**F. Salary Installments**

1. The salary as stated on the salary agreement of each faculty member employed for a full academic year shall be paid on a bi-weekly basis in twenty-six (26) approximately equal installments or twenty-seven (27) approximately equal installments in those fiscal years where there are twenty-seven bi-weekly pay periods.
2. Except for faculty members leaving the employ of the College at the end of the fiscal year, upon one month's written request by a faculty member:
  - a) All salary payments for pay periods subsequent to graduation shall be payable on the first pay period subsequent to graduation.
  - b) The College, subject to New York State audit regulations, will, upon one month's written request, make appropriate arrangements to forward faculty members' salary checks by mail. A request to forward checks by mail shall be irrevocable for the balance of the fiscal year (August 31).

**G. Voluntary Overload Compensation**

Faculty members accepting voluntary overload teaching assignments, pursuant to Article VII, Section I. 9. of this Agreement shall be compensated as follows:

Effective September 1, 2024, the overload compensation shall be \$1,394.00 per semester contact hour.

Effective September 1, 2025, the overload compensation shall be \$1,457.00 per semester contact hour.

Effective September 1, 2026, the overload compensation shall be \$1,523.00 per semester contact hour.

**H. Adjunct Faculty Compensation**

Adjunct and part-time faculty members who teach in a semester shall be compensated as follows:

Effective September 1, 2024, the compensation shall be \$1,394.00 per semester contact hour.

Effective September 1, 2025, the compensation shall be \$1,457.00 per semester contact hour.

Effective September 1, 2026, the compensation shall be \$1,523.00 per semester contact hour.

## **ARTICLE XIII INSTRUCTIONAL EVALUATIONS AND ANNUAL EVALUATIONS**

### **A. Procedure**

Classroom evaluation and annual evaluation procedures shall be separately conducted to afford faculty time to:

1. improve on or correct deficiencies noted; and/or
2. respond to comments made in observation reports prior to preparation of annual evaluation reports.

### **B. Instructional and/or Functional Area Observations**

1. Faculty shall be observed each academic year unless, upon a tenured faculty member's written request, on a year-by-year basis, the observation is deemed unnecessary by the faculty's Department Chair. A tenured faculty may only waive an instructional/functional observation and student evaluation for three (3) successive years.
2. Probationary faculty members will be observed at least once per academic year.
3. Observations will be conducted in a manner that minimizes disruption of the class observed and will be conducted prior to the annual evaluation.
4. Distance Learning Observations will be conducted pursuant to this Article and Article XXIII (9).
5. The first observation in an academic year shall be conducted by the faculty member's department chair. Successive observations, if any, may be made by the department chair, division dean or other appropriate administrative staff member.
  - a) Within five (5) faculty working days of the first observation, or any successive observation, faculty shall be provided with a written report thereof. Such report shall contain specific comments on the faculty member's overall performance (preparation, subject matter content, organization of materials, methodology, presentation, etc.) in the class observed. Should the report cite performance deficiencies, it shall also contain suggested means to correct the deficiencies noted.
  - b) Faculty shall have five (5) faculty working days from the receipt of the report to respond to the comments therein contained and, if one is desired, to request that they be re-observed by their department chair. Request is limited to the first observation in an academic year; if required re observation will be granted. During the five (5) day response period, the file copy of the observation report shall be considered confidential and shall be maintained by the department chair.

6. If successive observations are to be conducted, faculty shall be so informed in writing along with the reasons therefore. When conducted, the procedures will duplicate those of the first observation. Reports of successive observation(s) will, however, deal primarily with the performance factors that caused re-observation. Prior to any successive observation, the chair will discuss the written report of the prior observation with the faculty member.
7. If after two (2) observations in a given academic year, the department chair indicates that additional observations will be conducted, faculty so affected, if they request will also be observed by their division dean or other appropriate administrative staff member.
8. The appointment of a faculty member will not be terminated either pursuant to dismissal procedures (except in charges of misconduct) or non-renewal on the basis of only one (1) classroom observation.

**C. Annual Evaluation**

1. Faculty shall be evaluated annually. Such evaluation shall emphasize the primary duty of faculty (teaching, course preparation and the evaluation of student performance) and may also deal with other College related factors of faculty employment, i.e., interest in the welfare of students insofar as their classroom experience are concerned, committee participation, professional activities, publications and research, et al.
2. Any change in the job duties listed on the prior year's evaluation will be provided to the President of the Association by the College no later than July 1 of that year.
3. The annual evaluation report shall be prepared in writing by the faculty member's department chair on forms developed by the College for this purpose. (Prior to the issuance of these forms, and annually thereafter, the content and structure thereof shall be discussed with the Association.)
4. The College shall seek student input on the evaluation of faculty members and to the extent indicated herein such student evaluation shall be part of a faculty member's annual evaluation. With respect to probationary faculty, tenure decisions shall not be based solely on student evaluations.
5. Student evaluations shall be obtained through the use of the form [Appendix E]. The form may be modified by the Department Chair in collaboration with their faculty to reflect specific discipline(s). The student evaluation form must not be distributed earlier than the fifth week of classes and no later than the tenth week. The evaluation form may be in electronic or paper format at the discretion of the instructor. However, if the course is delivered exclusively through the course management system, then the student evaluation form shall be in electronic format. Each Department may add no more than ten (10) questions pertaining to specific academic discipline(s) and all modifications should be reviewed and approved by the responsible Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

6. Faculty shall be provided with copies of their evaluations, including a student evaluation summary for probationary faculty members (probationary faculty shall, within three (3) faculty working days of the College's receipt of the student evaluation summary be provided with copies of all such summaries), and shall be accorded a prompt opportunity to discuss them with their department chairs. Subsequent to such discussions, or on receipt of a written waiver thereof, faculty shall be accorded a period of five (5) faculty working days to submit any written response to their evaluation. Following the five (5) day response period, a copy of the evaluation report (including the student evaluation summary for affected probationary faculty) with faculty response, if any, thereon, will be forwarded for administrative review and file. Individual student evaluation forms will be retained for seven years. At any time prior to the destruction of the forms, a probationary faculty member shall, upon request to the College, be allowed to inspect the individual student evaluation forms upon which their evaluation summary was based, provided that said forms are anonymous or that the names and any other student identifiers are redacted from the forms.
7. Nothing shall be placed in a faculty member's file without providing a copy to the faculty member involved and providing the faculty member with an opportunity to respond. After a probationary faculty member has attained tenure, or if such probationary faculty member's employment with the College ceases prior to attaining tenure, each student evaluation summary in such faculty member's file shall be removed upon their written request. The faculty member may not request that only some of the student evaluation summaries be removed.

## **ARTICLE XIV ACADEMIC RANK**

### **A. Promotion Upon Attaining Tenure**

Instructors, upon attaining tenure, if not already promoted, shall be promoted to the rank of assistant professor.

### **B. Promotion Eligibility**

In determining eligibility for discretionary promotions (promotion to the rank of Associate Professor and to the rank of Professor) the College shall consider teaching ability, academic credentials, professional development, professional accomplishments and teaching experience. Additional criteria, if any, as may be established by the College will be announced annually by October 15.

### **C. Promotion Procedures**

1. Promotion recommendations will be initiated by department chairs; faculty shall be informed through the annual evaluation process whether or not they have been so recommended. Faculty may also initiate a recommendation on their own behalf.

2. Faculty who are not recommended for promotion or whose recommendation is denied at any step in the promotion review process shall, upon written request, be provided with explanation(s) for such action by either the appropriate Department Chair and/or supervisor, Academic Dean, or Vice President for Academic Affairs.
3. A faculty member's promotion recommendation materials will be forwarded through each stage of the review process from department chair to President of the College, whether approved or denied.

**D. Non-Grievability**

Except as provided for in Section A, paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, rank promotions shall be in the sole discretion of the College. The denial of a discretionary promotion (to Associate Professor or Professor) will not be subject to a review under the grievance procedure herein provided.

**ARTICLE XV**

**NON-RENEWAL, DISMISSAL, VOLUNTARY TERMINATION AND RETRENCHMENT**

**A. Non-Renewal**

1. Except as provided in Section D-1 of this Article, probationary faculty in their first year of employment with the College, whose appointments are not renewed shall be so informed in writing by February 1 prior to the effective date of non-renewal, August 31; or, in the case of librarians or education specialists, seven (7) months prior to the first employment anniversary date. Probationary faculty in their second, third, fourth or fifth year of employment with the College whose appointments are not renewed shall be so informed, in writing, by December 1, prior to the effective date of non-renewal, August 31; or, in the case of librarians or education specialists, nine (9) months prior to the second, third, fourth or fifth employment anniversary date.
2. The non-renewal of probationary faculty is not subject to review under the grievance procedure herein provided; however, such faculty in the event of non-renewal at the end of their fourth or fifth probationary year shall, upon request, be provided with a written explanation of the decision of the College and shall, upon written request, be afforded a hearing before the Board of Trustees.
3. Faculty granted tenure appointments shall hold their respective positions during good behavior and competent and efficient service. Except as provided in Section D- I of this Article, tenured faculty whose appointments are not renewed, shall be so informed in writing no less than fifteen (15) months prior to the effective date of non-renewal (August 31). The non-renewal of tenured faculty shall be subject to the grievance procedure herein provided; a grievance, if submitted may be initiated by said faculty at stage 2 of the grievance procedure. In the processing of a grievance for the non-renewal of a tenured faculty member, the burden of proof shall be on the College. At least five (5) days prior to the hearing at stage 2, the College shall provide reasonably detailed and formally written charges to the aggrieved party. The salary of a tenured faculty member affected by non-



renewal shall continue until the effective date of non-renewal or until such time as the grievance procedure is abandoned by the faculty member or is concluded, whichever shall be the latter.

**B. Dismissal (Termination Other Than Non-Renewal)**

1. Dismissal of a probationary faculty member shall be on thirty (30) days' notice or pay in lieu thereof. Dismissal of a temporary and/or adjunct faculty member shall be on ten (10) days' notice or pay in lieu thereof. Dismissal during the last (fifth) probationary year shall be subject to the grievance procedure herein provided.
2. Dismissal of a tenured faculty member shall also be on thirty (30) days advance notice or pay in lieu thereof. Such action shall, however, be subject to review under the grievance procedure and a grievance may be initiated by a faculty member so affected at stage 2. The salary of a tenured faculty member affected by dismissal shall continue for the then existing contract year or until such time as the grievance procedure is abandoned by the faculty member or is exhausted, in which latter event it shall be subject to the arbitrator's award unless, in either event, the faculty member, the Association (if the representative of the faculty member in the grievance proceeding), and the College shall otherwise agree in writing.

**C. Voluntary Termination**

Any faculty member desiring to terminate their services at the College at any time shall file written notice thereof with the President at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of such termination of services.

**D. Retrenchment**

1. In cases where economic necessity or changes in academic programs necessitate a reduction in the number of tenured and probationary teaching faculty, the College will give those faculty members thus affected notice thereof as soon as possible but not later than April 1. For the purpose of this Article, seniority shall be defined by the years of compensated service or as otherwise provided in Article XVI Section G (2) (A). A year of service shall be determined by the sum total or combination of two (2) semesters of full-time compensated service in the bargaining unit or as otherwise provided in Article XVI, G (2) (A).
2. Full-time bargaining unit members hired for or after the 2015/2016 academic year shall be credited for years of service in part-time positions calculated on a pro rata basis by dividing the total number of contact hours by thirty-three (33) for instructional faculty; and by dividing the total number of hours worked by 1,323 for librarians and education specialists. For librarians and educational specialists hired for or after the 2024/2025 academic year the total number of hours worked will be divided by 1,288. A full-time faculty member will receive no credit for part-time service rendered prior to a break in service of more than one (1) year. All existing and former members of the bargaining unit who take or have heretofore taken a position at the College outside of the bargaining unit and later return to

the bargaining unit will be given credit of one (1) year of service for each year of service at the College outside the bargaining unit. Members of the bargaining unit who leave or return to the bargaining unit during the course of the school year, will receive no more than, nor no less than, one (1) year of service for each continuous year of service at the College.

3. Should the retrenchment of tenured or probationary faculty be necessary, all part-time adjunct faculty in the teaching area affected will be laid off first followed by the lay-off of all full-time temporary faculty in the teaching area affected, followed by the lay-off of all full-time probationary faculty in the area affected followed by the lay-off of tenured faculty members in the teaching area affected. Retrenchment of probationary or tenured faculty in the teaching area affected shall be made in inverse order of seniority provided a faculty member has the qualifications to teach the courses to be taught or the bargaining unit functions to be performed.
4. For the purpose of this Article, a faculty member will be deemed qualified if they meet the minimum educational and experiential requirements as defined in the most recently published and/or posted recruitment/vacancy announcement in the teaching area where the courses are to be taught or the bargaining unit functions are to be performed, or if such an announcement is not available, the faculty member has the licensing, teaching experience and possesses the appropriate credentials and/or certification and/or, where applicable, practical vocational experience in the courses to be taught or the bargaining unit functions to be performed. For the purpose of determining whether a probationary or tenured faculty member "has the qualifications to teach the courses to be taught or the bargaining unit function to be performed" as those terms are applied in evidence that the faculty member has taught the course(s) or performed the bargaining unit function(s) within the teaching area "on load" at the College within the five (5) years prior to retrenchment and received satisfactory evaluations will be deemed sufficient evidence that the faculty member is qualified.
5. Any faculty member who is retrenched shall have no displacement prerogatives outside the teaching area where the lay-off occurred.
6. If within two (2) years the position from which a tenured or probationary faculty member was retrenched is reestablished or a vacancy occurs within the bargaining unit for which they are qualified and the College elects to fill the position, the College will offer such position to the retrenched faculty in inverse order of retrenchment. Refusal of such an offered position shall terminate the retrenched faculty member's recall entitlement hereunder.
7. Matters relating to the College's decision to retrench, fill, refill, establish and/or re-establish bargaining unit positions shall not be arbitrable hereunder. If grieved, the decision of the President or designee shall be final and binding and shall constitute the exclusive remedy thereunder.

8. Unless the parties should subsequently otherwise mutually agree, for the purposes of this Article only and not otherwise, the teaching areas set forth in Addendum C constitute the list of teaching areas at the College.
9. A faculty member may be on more than one (1) teaching area seniority list.
10. If a faculty member teaches a course in a particular teaching area "on load" in an academic year, for purposes of retrenchment only, they will be entitled to be placed on that teaching area seniority list.
11. If a faculty member does not teach a course "on load" in a particular teaching area for more than one (1) academic year, their name will be removed from that teaching area seniority list.
12. Faculty on approved leaves of absence or sabbatical leaves shall remain on the teaching area seniority lists they were on prior to their leave subject however, to Article XV (D)(2).
13. For any faculty member who resigns from the College, credit for prior years of service will be lost unless the faculty member returns to the position in the faculty bargaining unit within one (1) year from the effective date of the resignation.
14. Faculty members on approved leave of absence do not forfeit prior accrued years of service.
15. With the exception of librarians and education specialists, solely for the purpose of calculating continuous years of service for faculty members who begin service on a full-time basis during a semester after September 1, 1987, the faculty member will earn credit for a complete semester (.5 years of service) if they start work before the 7<sup>th</sup> week of classes. If the faculty member begins service during or after the 7<sup>th</sup> week of classes, the faculty member will earn credit for one-half semester (.25 years of service). For faculty who begin service on an adjunct basis after September 1, 1987, the same rules shall apply to earn credit for partial semesters multiplied by the pro rata formula determined under Article XV(D)(2). Librarians and education specialists earn service credit in direct proportion to the number of days worked out of the total obligation, 184 days, in a year.
16. Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted to grant relative seniority rights to part time/adjunct or full-time temporary faculty members.

## **ARTICLE XVI LEAVES**

### **A. Sick Leave**

1. Full-time Faculty
  - a) The College shall advance each faculty member, twelve (12) days of sick leave on September 1 of each year. Faculty members who receive an appointment after September 1, shall be advanced sick leave calculated on a pro-rata basis by multiplying

twelve (12) days by the percentage of the school year remaining. Sick leave may be used in increments of one (1) day, except that Education Specialists and Librarians may use sick leave in increments of one-half (1/2) day. A faculty member will notify their Department Chair as soon as possible of the need to use sick leave. For any week of the semester during which a faculty member misses their entire work obligation due to illness or injury, five (5) days sick leave must be charged.

- b) A faculty member may accrue up to one hundred sixty-five (165) days of sick leave. If during a faculty member's last year of employment, they are prevented from receiving the full twelve (12) day credit for accumulated sick leave because of the one hundred sixty-five (165) day limit, the last year's uncredited number of sick leave days may be used to restore to accumulated sick leave any sick leave days used in the last year of employment.
- c) After a faculty member has exhausted all sick and personal leave, their salary shall be suspended should their absence continue unless coverage of their classes is provided, on a volunteer basis, by a qualified member or members of the faculty and approved by the appropriate department chairperson.
- d) Sick leave validation, including disability arising out of pregnancy, may be requested in the form of a physician's certificate.

## 2. Part-Time Faculty and/or Full-Time Faculty Teaching a Voluntary Overload Assignment

In the course of a given semester, part-time faculty and full-time faculty on voluntary overloads shall be entitled to the following sick/personal leave with pay:

- a) Faculty with six (6) or fewer contact hours per semester may be absent with pay due to sickness or personal leave within the meaning of Article XVI (C), for three (3) hours during the semester. If this leave is utilized entirely during a single day, the contact hours missed on that day will be paid even if they exceed three.
- b) Faculty with more than six (6) contact hours may be absent for the reasons cited above for six (6) hours during the semester. If this leave is utilized entirely during a single day, the contact hours missed on that day will be paid even if they exceed six.
- c) Personal leave shall have the same meaning as set forth in Article XVI(C)(1) and the part-time faculty or full-time faculty teaching a voluntary overload shall have the same obligations as set forth therein.
- d) After a faculty member has exhausted all leave defined in this section, their salary shall be suspended should their absence continue unless coverage of assigned section(s) is provided on a voluntary basis by a qualified Board of Trustee and Department Chair approved faculty member. Voluntary coverage under this section shall only be permitted for absences for bereavement or for absences which would otherwise qualify under the Family Medical Leave Act and for which appropriate documentation is provided.

## 3.

- a) A faculty member eligible to and who does retire under their retirement program shall have the irrevocable option of applying the dollar value of their accumulated sick leave credited to an account for the purpose of paying their full premium cost of the College

health insurance plan following retirement. To be eligible for this benefit, the retiring faculty member must have completed a minimum of five (5) years of compensated full-time service at Hudson Valley Community College. Upon exhaustion of this account, the premiums for health insurance will be paid by the retiree.

- b) In the event that a faculty member who has exercised the option available under this section dies prior to exhausting the dollar equivalent of their sick leave accruals, the faculty member's dependents theretofore covered (spouse and/or eligible children), if any, shall, so long as eligible, continue to receive the College health insurance plan until the exhaustion of such account. If at the time of the death of said faculty member, their spouse was/is an employee of the College, and the deceased faculty member had retired having exercised an option available under this section, the remaining dollar value in the deceased's account will be added to the amount in their spouse's account and used to pay their health insurance premium or eligible dependent(s).
- c) At the time of retirement, the retiree may, at their further irrevocable option, have deducted from the dollar value of their accumulated sick leave a sum up to forty percent (40%) of the dollar value of their accumulated sick leave and be paid the same; the balance as heretofore outlined constituting an account to cover payment of the retiree's health insurance premiums.
- d) A faculty member eligible to retire under the conditions set forth in paragraph 3(a) not electing the options provided under paragraphs 3(a) or 3(c) hereof shall be entitled to a lump sum payment equal to the dollar value of fifty percent (50%) of their accumulated sick leave.

4.

- a) A faculty member not eligible to retire under their retirement program who has twenty (20) years of compensated full-time service at the College and who elects to terminate shall be entitled to a lump sum payment equal to the dollar value of fifty percent (50%) of their accumulated sick leave.
- b) A faculty member not eligible to retire under their retirement program who has twenty (20) years of compensated full-time service at the College in lieu of the lump sum payment above outlined may, at their option, make an irrevocable election to have the sum to which entitled upon termination as set forth in paragraph 4(a) credited to an account for the payment of their full premium cost of the College health insurance plan following termination under the same terms and conditions as provided for retirees under paragraph 3(a) hereof.

5. In the event a faculty member dies prior to retirement, at the irrevocable option of the spouse or estate representative of the deceased faculty member, the dollar value of fifty percent (50%) of the deceased faculty member's sick leave accruals on the date of their death may be paid in a lump sum to the spouse or estate of the deceased faculty member; or the sum to which entitled (50% of the deceased faculty member's sick leave accruals) may be credited to an account for the payment of the full premium cost of the College health insurance plan for the deceased faculty member's surviving dependents as provided in paragraph 3(b) hereof.

6. Faculty members shall annually receive a statement as to their sick leave accumulation.

7. For the sole purpose of calculating the value of accumulated sick leave, the faculty member's accumulated days shall be multiplied by the faculty member's current salary divided by one hundred and fifty-one (151).
8. A faculty member who is eligible for a sick leave payout pursuant to Article XVI (A) (3), (4), (6) and who has less than one-hundred sixty-five (165) sick leave days accrued, may increase the number of accrued days to one hundred sixty-five (165) sick days at time of death, retirement or termination of employment if they satisfied the following terms and conditions:
  - a) The faculty member must have accrued one hundred sixty-five (165) sick days at one time during their employment.
  - b) The faculty member must have been unable to accrue sick days because they had accrued the maximum of one hundred sixty-five (165) sick days.
  - c) The faculty member who dies (or their spouse or estate representative), retires or terminates must provide the College with the notice and/or election as provided in Article XVI.

The number of days a faculty member may use to restore their accrued sick leave to one hundred sixty-five (165) sick days is limited to the number of days that the faculty member was unable to accrue because they were at the maximum accrual number up to a maximum of thirty-five (35) days.

The faculty member may use said extra days only to replenish days for which they validly took sick leave.

In no event shall this provision be used to increase the number of accrued sick leave days beyond one hundred sixty-five (165) days at time of death, retirement or termination of employment.

## **B. Worker's Compensation Leave**

Whenever faculty are absent from their duties as a result of on-the-job injuries covered by worker's compensation, they will be paid at the level of their salaries which would otherwise have been due but for said injury (less the amount of any worker's compensation award made for temporary disability due to said injury) for the period of six (6) months from date of injury, and no part of such absence will be charged to leave to which they may otherwise be entitled.

## **C. Personal Leave**

### **1) Personal Leave**

- a) During each academic year, faculty shall be entitled to four (4) days of personal leave for urgent personal business which cannot be deferred or the observance of religious holidays without loss of pay. Under no circumstances will personal leave be used for what would otherwise be considered vacation. Faculty will make provisions for coverage of their classes unless relieved of the obligation to do so by their department chair and in emergency situations (e.g., death in immediate family, etc.). If possible, requests for such leave will be made in advance, in writing, and are to be directed to the faculty member's immediate supervisor. When faculty must be absent due to an

emergency situation, they shall report their absence or their intended absence to their immediate supervisor or their designee at the first reasonable opportunity. Personal leave days may be taken in one-half (1/2) day increments.

- b) During each academic year, Librarians and Educational Specialists shall be entitled to five (5) days of personal leave for urgent personal business which cannot be deferred or the observance of religious holidays without loss of pay. Under no circumstances will personal leave be used for what would otherwise be considered vacation. Faculty will make provisions for coverage of their responsibilities unless relieved of the obligation to do so by their department chair and in emergency situations (e.g., death in immediate family, etc.). If possible, requests for such leave will be made in advance, in writing, and are to be directed to the faculty member's immediate supervisor. When faculty must be absent due to an emergency situation, they shall report their absence or their intended absence to their immediate supervisor or their designee at the first reasonable opportunity. Personal leave days may be taken in one-half (1/2) day increments.
- 2) Subject to the provisions of Article XVI, Section A, upon exhaustion of a faculty member's personal leave, up to five (5) days current and/or accumulated sick leave a year may be used in order to attend to the circumstances related to a death or critical illness within the faculty member's immediate family as defined in Article XI, Section A (3).
- 3) In the event that a faculty member does not use all of their personal leave entitlement during the course of the academic year, up to two (2) days of such unused personal leave may be added to a personal leave bank, not to exceed a lifetime total of 10 days. This personal leave bank may be added to the sick leave accrual when the retirement sick leave bank is calculated, or when illness exhausts available sick leave. Except by addition of the personal leave bank, the sick leave bank cannot exceed 165 days.

#### **D. Sabbatical Leave**

Sabbatical leaves of absence will be granted to tenured full-time faculty members (including department chairpersons) in accordance with the following provisions:

- 1. Faculty members become eligible for a sabbatical leave upon completion of six (6) years of full-time employment at Hudson Valley Community College. Applications for a sabbatical leave may be filed during the sixth (6th) year of employment and thereafter, to be effective, if granted, the following academic year. Faculty who have previously been granted a sabbatical leave under these qualifications must complete a minimum of an additional six (6) years of full-time employment at Hudson Valley Community College from the date of return from their last sabbatical leave in order to be eligible for a subsequent sabbatical leave. Notwithstanding the above, in instances where the number of recommended applications for sabbatical leaves is less than the number of available leaves, the committee may, in its discretion, consider applications from prior sabbaticants who have complied with the provisions of paragraph 9 hereof.

2. Sabbatical leave may be granted for one (1) semester at full salary, two (2) semesters at half salary or two (2) semesters at full salary. The salary so paid shall not be reduced by any grant or fellowship received by the applicant.
3. The total number of sabbatical leaves granted per College year shall be subject to budget limitations; however, there shall not be more than four (4) at full salary during each year of the Agreement.
4. Completed sabbatical leave application forms for leaves to be effective for one or both semesters in the upcoming academic year shall be submitted to the President of the College by 5:00 p.m. on the last faculty work day in the month of January.
5. As part of the application for sabbatical leave, the applicant shall clearly indicate the purpose of the leave and, if the leave is for study, the name of the institution and the identity of the study and courses to be pursued and their relationship to the applicant's professional position. Applications for leave for travel or educational experience (limited to one [1] semester) shall state the specific educational objective in direct relation to the applicant's field of endeavor. Should a sabbatical leave be granted, any subsequent change from that as stated in the application shall require written notification to, and approval by the President.
6. The sabbatical recipients and the terms of their leaves shall be determined by a committee composed of five (5) representatives of the tenured faculty, two (2) representatives of the department chairpersons and three (3) representatives of the administration. A department chair may not serve on the committee if a member of their department is an applicant; a faculty member may not serve on the committee if their department chair is an applicant. An applicant may not be a member of the committee. Committee determinations are subject to the approval of the President of the College and the Board of Trustees.
7. Sabbatical leave recipients remain employees of the College and their salary shall be subject to the normal deductions for social security, income taxes, health insurance and other deductions. Upon return from sabbatical leave the recipient will be restored to the position to which entitled (or a comparable position) at a salary equal to that they would have received had they been in regular attendance at the College during the period of the sabbatical leave, less, however, the pro rata of all leave credits based on the duration of the sabbatical leave.
8. Upon return from sabbatical leave, the recipient will, within sixty (60) days, unless extended by the President, submit to the President a detailed report inclusive of appropriate records and data relative to such leave.
9. Following sabbatical leave the recipient is expected to return and complete two (2) years of service in the event of one (1) year's sabbatical leave; one (1) years' service in the event of one-half (1/2) year sabbatical leave. The College may require as a condition precedent to the granting of a sabbatical leave the execution of instruments to secure the repayment of



salary received when on sabbatical leave in the event of the failure of the recipient to return and complete such service.

10. Before reviewing applications, the Sabbatical Leave Committee shall establish guidelines and criteria for its operations and publish the same. Within forty (40) faculty working days following the final submission date for sabbatical leave applications, the Committee will communicate in writing to each applicant its determination of their application; an applicant not recommended for sabbatical leave shall be granted an opportunity to meet with the representatives of the Committee to review the Committee's determination on their application and the reasons therefore.
11. The determinations of the Sabbatical Leave Committee shall be grievable only as follows:
  - a) The aggrieved shall have the burden of proof in all cases.
  - b) The sole grounds for a grievance will be that the actions of the Committee were arbitrary or capricious.
  - c) Grievances will be submitted at the second stage within five (5) faculty working days following receipt of the Committee's determination.

#### **E. Jury Duty and Court Appearances**

1. Jury Duty - Any member of the faculty unit scheduled for jury duty shall be excused from class attendance and other duties for such jury service which conflicts with their professional responsibilities without loss of pay or charge to leave credits. All pending instances of jury duty shall be reported to the Department Chairperson immediately upon the receipt of notice thereof. The College may request documentation to substantiate a faculty member's actual jury service.
2. Court Appearances - As a party to an action or as a result of subpoena, any faculty member shall be excused from their class attendance and other duties for such court appearance(s) which conflicts with their professional responsibilities without loss of pay or charge to leave credits.

#### **F. Association Leave**

The President of the Association shall be entitled to five (5) days leave per year not chargeable against sick leave or personal leave for the purpose of conducting special Association business and attending meetings. The normal, assigned load of the Association's President shall not exceed nine (9) credit hours per semester. This shall not adversely affect the President's ability to accept voluntary overload, nor shall it adversely affect additional compensation opportunities for Summer session(s).

If the Association President is an education specialist or librarian, they will be granted seven (7) clock hours per week release time. This section shall apply only to full-time bargaining unit members.

#### **G. Leaves of Absence (Unpaid Leaves)**

1. Unpaid leaves of one (1) or two (2) semesters may be granted to probationary members at the discretion of the College. In the instance of faculty members holding tenure, unpaid leaves of absence of one (1) or two (2) semesters will be granted upon advance application as described in paragraph 3 of this section of the Agreement. For librarians and education specialists, unpaid leaves may be granted for any portion of the 184-day work year. Extensions of leaves shall be in the sole discretion of the College. Such leaves shall commence at the beginning of a semester. The total number of leaves available per College year for faculty members enjoying tenure shall not exceed three (3). Additional leaves may be granted at the discretion of the College. Where the purposes of the leaves are for advanced study, exchange teaching or other activity in each instance related to the faculty member's field or professional duties or which otherwise benefit the College, or for the purpose of holding professional or political office, or seeking the latter, upon return from such leave, a faculty member shall be restored to the position which they held prior to their leave or a comparable position and shall receive a salary equal to that which they would have received had they taught at the College during such period, exclusive of promotion.
2.
  - a) A tenured faculty member whose leave was for advanced study, exchange teaching or other activity in each instance related to the faculty member's field or professional duties or which otherwise benefit the College shall accumulate additional credit toward years of service to the College and sabbatical leave eligibility.
  - b) A faculty member whose leave was for other purposes shall not accumulate additional credit toward tenure, years of service to the College, or sabbatical leave eligibility.
3. Applications for leave must be made in writing to the President of the College within twenty (20) faculty working days after the start of the semester preceding the semester for which the leave is being requested. The time limit may be waived by the College in the case of emergency or other mitigating circumstances.

#### **H. Validation of Attendance**

Faculty members shall be required to certify their attendance and record their absences on the forms provided by the College.

### **ARTICLE XVII INSURANCE**

#### **A. Health Care Coverage**

1. As of the date of this Agreement, the College makes available as primary plans to all full-time bargaining unit members and their eligible dependents group indemnity, Blue Shield NENY; CDPHP; Avid Care \$25; and MVP Health Plan NY Co-Plan 15 Plus. The College will continue to make available to those parties' coverage as congruent as possible to these

primary plans. With respect to primary plans, the College reserves the right to change carriers or to self-insure, as it deems appropriate, so long as the coverage and benefits remain as congruent as possible with those currently provided. The College agrees to attempt to minimize changes by incumbent providers and HMOs from one plan year to another.

However, the College will not be responsible for changes unilaterally imposed by an insurance provider or HMO in benefits, co-payment provisions or deductibles. The practice of reimbursing the \$240 in-patient deductible of the hospitalization portion of indemnity coverage will continue to be in effect regardless of change in indemnity plan provider or changes in plan parameters. As of the date of this Agreement, the participants in the Blue Shield NENY Group Indemnity Plan, or any successor plan, are subject to a prescription drug co-pay of five dollars (\$5.00) for generic drugs and twenty dollars (\$20.00) for other than generic drugs. The co-pay responsibility of such participants shall increase in the same manner as the increase in co-pay responsibility of participants in the Avid Care \$25, or any successor plan, provided however, that during this Agreement the drug co-pay for participants in the indemnity plan shall not increase beyond ten dollars (\$10.00) for generic drugs and thirty dollars (\$30) for other than generic drugs.

See Addendum F.

2. The College may continue to provide alternatives to the primary health plans identified above which make available less costly coverage. It is understood that these are alternatives to primary plans and enrollment replaces coverage under a primary plan. It is also understood that such alternatives are offered at the discretion of the College and such alternatives are not subject to any criterion of congruency with primary plans. With respect to the alternative plans, the College reserves the right to self-insure or to provide as many or as few plans as it deems appropriate with no restriction on included benefit or coverage levels.

#### **B. Long-term Disability**

The College shall continue to provide all full-time unit members a long-term disability insurance plan at benefit levels currently in effect as described in the plan, available in the Office of Human Resources. The College reserves the right to change providers or to self-insure provided that existing benefit levels are maintained or enhanced.

#### **C. Dental Insurance**

The College shall continue to make available to all full-time faculty a dental plan whose benefits are equivalent to the dental plan now in effect for employees of the County of Rensselaer. Should the level or scope of benefits provided under the county-wide plan be increased for county employees, the same increase(s) shall automatically be accorded to eligible bargaining unit members covered by this Agreement. Effective September 1, 2015, an employee who chooses to participate in this plan the employee will pay 100% of the cost of the Dental Insurance coverage at a cost not to exceed \$23 per month for the duration of this agreement.

#### **D. Cost of Insurance**

1. The cost of any premium increases in the dependency coverage portion of the health insurance program shall be borne equally by the College and the faculty member. If, however, the College effects a savings in the total cost of the health insurance program covering bargaining unit personnel, such savings shall be applied as an offset to any increase(s) in the employee's contribution to the cost of the dependency coverage as described herein.
  - a) Effective 1/1/16 Full Time Faculty hired prior to the ratification date of this contract will pay 10% of the cost of individual coverage for a primary plan.
  - b) Full time Faculty first employed after the ratification date of this agreement will pay 15% of the cost of individual coverage for a primary plan.
2. The College shall continue to pay 100% of the cost of the long-term disability coverage.

**E. Election to Waive Health Coverage**

Each employee (except employees whose spouses are also eligible for coverage) may elect to refuse participation in the College Health Insurance Program and may provide for their own health insurance. The Employer will place Fifty (\$50) dollars in a trust account each month of this Agreement that the employee is eligible but does not elect coverage. The employee will receive the funds so accumulated by December 15 of each year or upon termination. An employee may elect to resume coverage the first of the month following a qualifying event.

**F. Consultation with Association**

In the event of a change of health insurance carriers or the election by the College or County to self-insure any one or more of the primary coverages provided hereunder, such change shall be made only after thirty (30) days' notice and a subsequent consultation with the Association. The benefits thereafter provided by the new carrier or under a self-insured program shall be as congruent as possible to the benefits provided by the primary plan.

**G. Part-time Faculty**

Part-time faculty may participate in the available HMO plans, primary or alternative plans offered by the College at full premium cost of the option selected plus a two percent (2%) of premium administrative cost. While the part-time faculty member is on payroll status, all premiums and administrative costs must be received by the College through payroll deduction.

**H. Labor Management Committee**

No later than eighteen (18) months prior to termination of this contract, the parties agree to establish a Labor Management Committee to review and make recommendations to the College concerning possible alternative medical insurance options. The Committee shall be composed of three members of the Faculty Association together with the Vice President for Administration, Director of Human Resources and Vice President for Finance of the College. From time to time, the College may make available to the Committee the College's insurance consultant.

**I. Extent of Coverage**

The extent of coverage under the health and disability plans, including any HMO's and/or self-insured plans referred to in this Agreement shall be governed by the terms and conditions set forth in said policies or plans or benefits thereunder and shall be resolved in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in said policies or plans. The failure of any insurance carrier(s) or plan administrator(s) to provide any benefit for which it is contracted or is obligated shall result in no liability to the College or County. However, in instances where the College agrees that an insurance provider may not be meeting its contractual obligations, the College agrees to contact the insurance provider on the employee's behalf.

**ARTICLE XVIII  
FACILITIES**

**A. College Obligation to Provide**

The College agrees to provide all necessary facilities to meet the educational objective of the institution.

**B. Unsafe Conditions**

The College will provide a safe place to work. Faculty members will not be required to work under unsafe conditions or to engage in activities which endanger their health, safety, and well-being.

**C. Office Space**

Within its capabilities, the College will provide faculty office space for each full-time faculty member sufficient to afford privacy necessary for study and the advisement of students. Additionally, the College will provide telephones and computer access for intra-campus usage and for the conduct of business.

**ARTICLE XIX  
FACULTY ASSOCIATION BUSINESS**

**A. Transaction of Association Business**

Association representatives shall have the right to transact Association business on College premises at any reasonable time, provided the same does not interfere with instruction. The College shall make space available to the Association, upon request, on a space available basis.

**B. Bulletin Boards**

There will be a bulletin board in each College building at a location agreed upon by the parties hereto under the exclusive control of the Association.

**C. Intra-School Communications**

The Association may use the intra-school communication system for the dissemination of Association information to its membership.

**D. Time and Faculty Meetings**

1. The Association shall be allotted at least fifteen (15) minutes during each faculty meeting, after the opening remarks of the President of the College, to conduct its business.
2. If a conflict develops between a scheduled meeting of the Faculty Association and other organizations and/or committees, those other organizations and/or committees, shall have priority except that the Faculty Association shall be assigned first priority for one (1) meeting time every fourth week.

**E. Office for Association President**

Subject to space limitation in the department of the President of the Association, every effort will be made to provide individual office space for the President of the Association during their term of office. Reassignment of faculty office space to accommodate the foregoing shall not be subject to the grievance procedure hereunder.

**ARTICLE XX  
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

**A. Line of Authority**

1. Within thirty (30) days of ratification of this Agreement and annually thereafter, the College will post the organizational chart of the College's administration.
2. The Association will be provided with five (5) current copies of the Hudson Valley Community College Board of Trustees By-laws, as well as the following documents:
  - a) Administrative Duties, Hudson Valley Community College;
  - b) Most recent edition of Regulations for Community Colleges under the State University of New York.

**B. Copies of Agreement**

A copy of this Agreement is available on the College's website to faculty members now or hereafter employed. A copy of this Agreement shall be incorporated, by reference, in the Faculty Handbook.

**C. Physical Examinations**

Physical examinations which may be required subsequent to employment shall be paid for by the College.

**D. Course Auditing**

With the exception of community interest courses, any instructor shall be privileged to audit any course on a non-matriculating basis at Hudson Valley Community College without tuition costs to himself/herself, on a space available basis, and with permission of the course instructor.

**E. Secretarial Assistance**

The College will make reasonable efforts to permit faculty members to avail themselves of clerical assistance for preparation of appropriate course materials.

**F. Academic Attire**

The College shall provide academic attire for functions in accordance with protocol.

**G. Reprisals**

There will be no reprisals of any kind taken against a faculty member by reason of their membership in the Association or participating in any of its activities.

**H. Labor/Management Meetings**

To facilitate communications between the parties and to promote a climate conducive to constructive relations between the College and the Faculty Association, conferences between representatives of the College and the Faculty Association may be held at the request of either party to discuss matters of mutual concern. Arrangements for such meetings shall be made in advance and shall be held at reasonable hours as mutually agreed upon by the parties. The agenda for each such conference shall be established by the President of the Faculty Association. No provision of this section shall in any manner be used to alter the terms of this Agreement, nor shall it in any way abrogate the rights and obligations of either party to the Agreement.

**I. Preservation of Benefits**

Bargaining unit members who presently receive base salary or hourly rates which are greater than the applicable minimum base salaries and hourly rates set forth in this Agreement shall not have their base salary or hourly rate reduced.

**J. Faculty Orientation**

Prior to employment, new faculty members shall be required to attend orientation/familiarization sessions to be scheduled by the College prior to the beginning of Fall semester or Spring semester.

**K. Agendas**

Agendas of all Board of Trustees meetings shall be posted on the College website.

**L. College in the High Schools Model**

The Association acknowledges that the College has been and will continue to conduct a College in the High School Program. The Association consents to the operation of said program and the

College agrees to annually review, at least the following: maintenance of educational standards; the impact of the program on higher level courses; review the impact of the program on ratios of full-time faculty to adjunct faculty; review the impact of the program on the future of on-campus course registrations and academic oversight procedures. The result of such reviews shall upon request be made available to the Association through the labor management process. If the work opportunity of a full time probationary or full-time faculty member is directly impacted by the High School Program, the said eligible faculty member shall be granted up to two (2) academic years with full pay and all contractual benefits including seniority, except that time on retraining leave shall not count as part of the faculty member's probationary period, as retraining leave to participate in a retraining program as hereinafter described.

The retraining program and the configuration thereof (which may include teaching and/or program development) and the duration thereof for the said eligible faculty member will be selected by the College in its discretion; however, the program will be in a comparable or related field to that taught by the said faculty member and which was directly impacted by the High School Program.

The retraining program may involve some work activity. In that event, the said faculty member's salary by the College shall be reduced by the gross amount that the faculty member receives as a result of the work activity.

Upon satisfactory completion of the retraining program, the faculty member will be returned to a full-time position within the faculty bargaining unit at the College with no loss of salary or benefits, except time spent on retraining leave shall not count as part of this probationary period. In the event that the faculty member was a full-time probationary faculty member, they will serve a probationary period of at least three (3) years upon being returned to a position at the College.

Retraining leave recipients shall remain employees of the College and their salary shall be subject to the normal deductions for Social Security, income taxes, health insurance and other deductions. Following retraining leave, the recipient shall return and complete two (2) years of service at the College. In the event that the recipient fails to do so, they shall repay pro rata to the College the salary paid to him/her by the College during retraining leave.

The College may require as a condition precedent to the granting of retraining leave the execution of an instrument to recover such repayment in the event of a failure of the recipient to return and complete such service.

Retraining leave shall not be deemed sabbatical leave under XVI (D).

The following provisions of this Agreement shall be applicable to the teachers in the high school:

Article I	Article XI(A) (2)
Article II	Article XII (B), (G), (H)
Article III	Article XIII
Article IV	Article XIX (A), (C)
Article V	Article XX (B), (C), (D), (G), (L)
Article VI	Article XXI
Article VII (A), (B), (C), (D)	Article XXII
Article VIII (A) (5), (C), (D)	Addendum D.
Article X (A), (B), (D)	

Any alleged violation of the foregoing may be grieved pursuant to Addendum D.

#### **M. Tuition Reimbursement/Waiver**



Commencing with September 1, during each fiscal year of the Agreement, the maximum amount of credit hours will be 400. Each Faculty member may apply for a tuition waiver on behalf of a child/children/spouse in the Fall, Spring, Summer, Intersession terms. The application period will be open eight weeks prior to the start of a term and will end one week before the term begins (as defined by the Instructional Calendar). Waivers will be provided on a first-come/first-serve basis up to the total credit hour limit. Tuition waiver forms are available on the Human Resources Webpage and attached hereto as Addendum B.

## **ARTICLE XXI RE-NEGOTIATION**

### **A. Exchange of Proposals**

Should either party hereto wish to amend the provisions of this Agreement subsequent to its expiration date they shall present their proposals on or prior to March 1, 2027.

### **B. Negotiations**

Should either party propose that changes be made in this Agreement subsequent to its expiration, negotiations on such proposals shall commence no later than April 1, 2027.

### **C. Concentrated Negotiations**

In the event that the parties have not reached an agreement by May 1, 2027, the parties shall enter into a period of concentrated negotiations (not less than 15 meetings prior to the start of the next academic year) with the intent of reaching accord on a successor Agreement prior to graduation.

## **ARTICLE XXII GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

### **A. Procedures**

The grievance procedure will be as set forth in Addendum D hereto annexed and incorporated herein by this reference.

### **B. Continuation of Procedures**

If, upon the expiration of this Agreement, a successor Agreement has not been ratified, all provisions of the grievance procedure as set forth in Addendum D shall remain in full force and effect as the same relates to grievances initiated prior to or subsequent to the expiration date hereof until the ratification of a successor Agreement.

## **ARTICLE XXIII DISTANCE LEARNING**

### **A. Distance Learning**

1. Distance Learning involves exclusive use of a course management system as the instructional vehicle. However, Hybrid courses will be considered as Distance Learning and may be subject to provisions in Article XXIII 3, 4 and 5.
2. ITV, Video Conferencing, and Web Enhanced courses shall not be considered Distance Learning.
3. At the discretion of the Department Chair, faculty can be assigned Distance Learning courses/sections in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article VII (G).
4. Every faculty member who must utilize the course management system to teach shall receive a stipend of \$300 for each semester that the faculty member must obtain internet access. The purpose of the stipend is to defray the cost to that faculty member of obtaining Internet access. The stipend shall not be increased if the faculty member teaches more than one such course in any semester. Effective January 1, 2022, the Distance Learning Stipend is terminated and no bargaining unit member shall be entitled to a distance learning stipend thereafter.
5. Every Faculty member who must learn and exercise the course management system in order to teach shall participate in and complete a training opportunity and shall develop said course to be taught. Training and course development must be completed by the end of that semester and must be approved by the faculty member's department chair before the faculty member may commence teaching said course. Release time for training [first time and/or additional] and/or first time teaching for any faculty member will be determined by an assessment process that will include the faculty member, DL staff, Department Chair and Dean. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for approval.
6. The total number of seats available for a distance learning section as set forth in the master schedule distributed in accordance with Article VII(G) shall be set at twenty-seven (27) students for that section. The maximum number of students, however, may be increased by agreement between the appropriate department chairperson and the affected faculty member.
7. In the event that a Distance Learning course is imported from sources or locations outside of the College, the College shall offer the same courses and number of sections in the discipline of which the Distance Learning course is a part that were offered in the previous academic year's master schedule. Provided, however, the number of said sections including the Distance Learning course that will be run in a particular semester shall be determined in accordance with the usual academic process.
8. Notwithstanding anything in the Collective Bargaining Agreement to the contrary, all video tapes and/or tape recordings of a Distance Learning course and all copies thereof shall be archived with the College Library, as a resource only, for a period of one year from the completion of the course in which said materials were last used and upon expiration of that

period said materials will be destroyed unless otherwise agreed to by the faculty member and the College.

9. Distance Learning Course (on-line courses, hybrid courses) shall be subject to observation in accordance with provisions in this paragraph.
  - a) The Department Chairperson will be assigned within the course for the purpose of observation of on-line instruction.
  - b) Observations will be reflected and summarized on the form provided by the College, which will be consistent across all academic disciplines, and will be given to the faculty member within seven (7) days of the observation and prior to the annual evaluation. Observations will be in accord with Article XIII.
  - c) Hybrid Courses
    - (i) Since hybrid course area composite of traditional courses and on-line courses, the department chairpersons annually shall determine whether to conduct the observation in accordance with subparagraph (A) or subparagraph (B) above traditional or on-line methods and depending upon the determination shall follow the procedures set forth in the appropriate subparagraph.
  - d) With respect to distance learning courses, subject to the provisions of this subparagraph (D), the department chairperson, at any time, shall have access to course statistics for all distance learning courses under their supervision upon request and upon providing written reason therefore to the faculty member.
  - e) A department chairperson will not release the course materials developed by a faculty member in connection with teaching a distance learning course to another faculty member unless the faculty member who developed the said course materials consents to such release.

3. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereto caused this Instrument to be executed in the manner following:

**HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE**

By: [Signature]  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Date: 8/29/2024

**HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE FACULTY ASSOCIATION**

By: [Signature]  
President

Date: 8/28/2024

By: [Signature]  
President of the College

Date: Aug. 28, 2024

**COUNTY OF RENNELAER**

By: [Signature]  
County Executive

Date: 12/23/24

**Steven F. McLaughlin**  
County Executive

**APPROVED AS TO FORM**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Attorney

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM**

[Signature]  
Carl J. Kempf III  
Rensselaer County Attorney  
Date 12/18/24

Approved by the  
Rensselaer County Bureau of Budget  
Nicholas J. Blais  
Nicholas J. Blais  
Director of Budget

**ADDENDUM A**  
**Course Preference Form**

HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
TROY, NEW YORK

20\_\_ Semester Course Preference Form

This form is to be completed by each full-time faculty member and returned to their department chair.

**PART I: COURSE PREFERENCE(S)**

- A. Listed below are the course(s) that I prefer to teach during the \_\_\_\_\_ semester; by check ( ).

I have noted the course or courses I would like to teach on a voluntary overload basis if such assignments are available.

<u>COURSE NUMBER</u>	<u>Section Number</u>	<u>Schedule Day/Time</u>	<u>VOLUNTARY OVERLOAD ASSIGNMENT</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

- B. Meeting with Department Chairperson (check one)

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to have a meeting with my department chair to discuss my (Spring, Fall) semester course preference(s).

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not wish to meet with my department chair to discuss my (Spring, Fall) semester course preference(s).

**PART II: COURSE SCHEDULE PREFERENCE(S)**

My preference(s) and the reasons therefor in regard to the meeting days and/or times for the courses to which I will be assigned during the \_\_\_\_\_ semester are as follows:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Member

ADDENDUM B

TUITION WAIVER AUTHORIZATION FOR CHILDREN OR SPOUSE OF

FACULTY, LIBRARIAN, EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST

Please check semester:

FALL \_\_\_\_\_ SPRING \_\_\_\_\_ SUMMER \_\_\_\_\_ INTERSESSION \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student

Relationship of student to college employee: \_\_\_\_\_

Student social security number \_\_\_\_\_

Name of faculty member/librarian/educational specialist:

Number of credit hours requested for waiver \_\_\_\_\_

_____	Employee _____
signature	Date

_____	_____
Vice President for Finance	Date

**Waivers will be distributed on a first-come first-served basis. The application period will open eight weeks before a term, and end one week before a team.**

JRF/I-18-08

H forms

**ADDENDUM C  
TEACHING AREAS**

**Teaching Area**

**Business Division**

- 1                    Accounting/Business Administration/Marketing/CIS/EOA/MOA

**Engineering & Industrial Technologies**

- 2                    Air Conditioning/Refrigeration Mechanics  
3                    Automotive/Auto Body  
4                    Civil & Construction Technologies  
5                    Electrical Technology  
6                    Telecommunications Technology/Telecommunications Management  
7                    Industrial Technology/Mechanical Technology  
8                    Electrical Construction Maintenance/Plant Utilities Technology  
9                    Machining Processes

**Health Sciences**

- 10                    Biology/Medical Laboratory Technology/Environmental Studies  
11                    Dental Hygiene  
12                    Mortuary Science  
13                    Nursing  
14                    Radiologic Technology  
15                    Echocardiography  
16                    Diagnostic Medical Sonography

**Liberal Arts and Sciences**

- 17                    Chemistry  
18                    Criminal Justice  
19                    Civil & Public Service  
20                    English  
21                    Foreign Language

22	Math/Engineering Science
23	Individual Studies
24	Physics
25	Physical Education
26	History
27	Art
28	Music
29	Economics
30	Social Sciences
31	Sociology/Psychology
32	Anthropology
33	Early Childhood
34	Human Services
35	Geography
36	Philosophy
37	Political Science
38	Interdisciplinary
39	Theatre

### **Other**

40	Librarians-Reader Services (Circulation, References, Inter-Library Loans, Periodicals, Collection Development), Technical Services (Catalog Acquisitions)
41	Education Specialists
42	Microcomputer Technology



## **ADDENDUM D**

### **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

1. A grievance is a claim by any party hereto, a faculty member or group of faculty in the negotiating unit, based upon the interpretation or application of this Agreement.
2. All grievances shall be in writing and include the name and position of the aggrieved party, a brief statement of the nature of the grievance, and the redress sought by the aggrieved party.
3. Except for informal decisions at stage 1, all decisions shall be rendered in writing at each step of the grievance procedure, setting forth findings of fact, conclusions and supporting reasons therefore. Each decision shall be promptly transmitted to the aggrieved party, the parties hereto, and, if any, all parties in interest (any person or party named in the grievance who is not the aggrieved party).
4. A grievance having department-wide or broader implications may be submitted by the Association directly at stage 2 described below.
5. The preparation and processing of grievances shall be conducted at a time affording all interested parties a reasonable opportunity to attend; employees who are required to be present during working hours shall be excused from duty without loss of pay. Reasonable effort will be made to avoid interruption of classroom activity and to avoid involvement of students in any phase of the grievance procedure.
6. All parties agree to facilitate any investigation which may be required and to make available, upon request of any party hereto and/or any aggrieved party, any and all material and relevant documents, communications and records concerning alleged grievances.
7. Except at Stage 1 of the grievance procedure, each party to the proceeding shall have the right at all stages of the grievance procedure to confront and cross-examine all witnesses, to call witnesses and to be furnished with a copy of the official minutes of the proceedings to be made at each and every stage of this grievance procedure.
8. The filing of grievances, serving notices, taking appeals, making reports and recommendations will be accomplished on the forms jointly developed for this purpose. The College shall have these forms duplicated and distributed to the President of the Association.
9. All documents, communications and records dealing with the processing of a grievance shall be filed separately from the personnel files of the participants.
10. Nothing contained herein will be construed as limiting the right of any faculty member having a grievance to discuss the matter informally with any appropriate member of the

administration and having the grievance informally adjusted, provided that except at stage 1(A), the Association shall be promptly informed of the details of such adjustment. Any grievance that is adjusted without formal determination, pursuant to this procedure, while binding upon the aggrieved party and in all respects final, shall not create a precedent or ruling binding upon either of the parties to this agreement in future proceedings.

11. Every person who has the right to bring a grievance hereunder has the right to be represented by a representative of their own choice, provided, however, that any grievance finally determined without participation of the Association, while binding on the aggrieved party and in all respects final, shall not create a precedent or ruling binding either of the parties to this Agreement in future proceedings.
12. The Association shall be entitled to at least five (5) working days advance notice of all hearings on grievances in which the aggrieved party is not represented by the Association and, if so, advised to participate therein.
13. In any and all cases where the aggrieved party is not represented at any stage of the grievance procedure by the Association, the Association may, in its sole discretion, appeal the decision in any such grievance to the next higher stage of the grievance procedure.
14. Any and all notices which the grievance procedure requires to be given to the Board of Trustees, College or representative thereof, may be delivered to the President of Hudson Valley Community College, or, in their absence, to the person then in charge of their office.
15. The time limits specified herein may not be extended except by mutual agreement.
16. Grievances must be initiated at the first available stage within thirty (30) faculty working days of the occurrence of the event giving rise thereto, or of the date the grievant should reasonably have had knowledge thereof.
17. If a decision at one stage is not appealed to the next stage of the procedure within the basic time specified, the grievance shall be deemed to be dismissed. Questions relating to compliance with time limitations or appeals shall not be arbitrable.
18. Failure at any stage of the grievance procedures to communicate a decision to the aggrieved party, their representatives and the Association within the specified time limit shall permit the lodging of an appeal to the next stage of the procedure within five (5) faculty working days after the expiration of the period which would have been allotted for appeal had the decision been communicated by the final day.
19. In the event a grievance is filed on or after April 1<sup>st</sup>, upon the request by or on behalf of the aggrieved party, the time limits set forth herein may be reduced pro rata by mutual consent of all parties involved so that the grievance procedure may be exhausted prior to the end of the College term or as soon thereafter as is possible.

## 20. Stages of Grievance Procedure:

### A. Stage 1: Supervisor – Informal

1. A faculty member having a grievance will discuss it with their appropriate supervisor, either personally and/or by a representative, with the objective of resolving the matter informally.
2. If the grievance is not resolved informally within five (5) faculty working days of submission, it shall, within seven (7) faculty working days of submission, be reduced to writing and presented to the appropriate supervisor. Within two (2) faculty working days after the written grievance is presented to him/her, the appropriate supervisor shall render a decision thereon, in writing.

### B. Stage 2: President

1. If any aggrieved party is not satisfied with the written decision at the conclusion of stage 1 and wishes to proceed further under this grievance procedure, the aggrieved party shall, within five (5) working days of receipt of decision at stage 1, file a written appeal of the decision at stage 1 with the President. Copies of the written decision at stage 1 shall be submitted with the appeal.
2. Within two (2) faculty working days after receipt of the appeal, the President or their duly authorized representative, shall schedule a pre-hearing conference with the grievant and other parties in interest for the purpose of again attempting to resolve the grievance informally.
3. If the grievance is not resolved as a result of the pre-hearing conference the President or their representative shall commence a hearing on the matter within ten (10) faculty working days of the date of the pre-hearing conference. The President shall render a decision within five (5) faculty working days after the conclusion of the hearing.

### C. Stage 3: Binding Arbitration

1. If the Association is not satisfied with the decision at the conclusion of stage 2, the Association may submit the matter to arbitration by written submission to the American Arbitration Association, with copy to the President, within five (5) faculty working days of receipt of the decision at stage 2. The parties will be bound by the Voluntary Arbitration Rules and Procedures of the American Arbitration Association.

2. The selected arbitrator will hear the matter promptly and will issue their decision not later than fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of the close of the hearing, or, if oral hearings have been waived, then from the date the final statements and proofs are submitted to him/her. The arbitrator's decision will be in writing and will set forth their findings of fact, reasons and conclusions on the issues.
3. The arbitrator shall not have the power or authority to alter, amend, or change the terms and provisions hereof, or to make any decision which requires the commission of an act prohibited by law, or which is violative of the terms of this Agreement.
4. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon all parties.
5. The cost of the services of the arbitrator and all other such expenses including the cost of the stenographer, and any other associated costs of the arbitration, will be borne solely by the party whose position is completely dismissed by the arbitrator. If the arbitrator awards partial judgment to both parties, then the costs of those services will be borne equally by the College and the Association, or as otherwise may be determined by the arbitrator. The arbitrator will retain jurisdiction and shall determine any dispute between the parties concerning the meaning and/or the application of this provision.

## ADDENDUM E EVALUATION FORM

Course ID: \_\_\_\_\_

### Hudson Valley Community College Student Evaluation of Instruction

Rate each question by the following criteria by indicating your answer in the box below the headings.

#### Teaching methods/strategies/practices

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
1.	The instructor expresses clear expectations of the course requirements.						
2.	The course objectives are clear.						
3.	The instructor clearly explains concepts.						
4.	The instructor clarifies areas of confusion.						
5.	The instructor uses effective teaching methods that enhance my learning.						
6.	The instructor encourages me to raise questions or make comments.						
7.	The instructor is well organized and prepared.						
8.	The instructor challenges me to think and solve problems on my own.						
9.	The instructor is available on an individual basis outside of class when I request it.						
10.	The instructor uses technology effectively to advance my learning.						
11.	The instructor contributes to improving my learning.						

#### Student involvement/engagement

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
12.	I attend class regularly.						
13.	I come to class prepared.						
14.	I ask questions in class.						

15.	I have discussed grades or assignments with my instructor.						
16.	In this course, I have been challenged to learn more than I expected.						
17.	This course increased my critical thinking and problem solving skills.						
18.	I am working up to my potential in this course.						
19.	I have made my best effort to participate in this course.						
20.	On average I have spent _____ hours per week doing work outside of class for this course.	9+ hours	7-8 hours	5-6 hours	2-4 hours	0-1 hour	

### Student learning

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
21.	I have learned a lot in this class.						
22.	This class has increased my interest in this field of study.						
23.	The instructor shows respect and concern for me.						
24.	I believe that what I am being asked to learn in this course is important.						

### Evaluation of course materials (resources, assignments, assessments)

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
25.	The assignments in this course have enhanced my learning.						
26.	The tests and/or projects accurately assess what I have learned in this course.						
27.	The instructor has high standards for achievement in this class.						
28.	The instructor provides clear evaluation criteria.						
29.	The instructor grades consistently with the evaluation criteria.						
30.	The assignments are returned quickly enough to benefit my learning.						
31.	The exam and/or project results are returned quickly enough to benefit my learning.						
32.	The feedback I have received on my work has enhanced my learning.						

### Discipline Specific

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
33.							
34.							
35.							
36.							
37.							
38.							
39.							
40.							
41.							
42.							

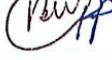
### Summary

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
43.	Overall, the instructor has been an effective teacher.						
44.	Overall, this course has been effective in advancing my learning.						
45.	Overall, this course has prepared me to enter the workforce and/or continue my education.						

**ADDENDUM F**  
**BLUE SHIELD NENY PROVISION**

ADDENDUM – BLUE SHIELD NENY PROVISION

December 1, 2021

12/21/21 

1. The parties agree to preserve the Blue Shield NENY provision contained within Article XVII (A) but recognize that Blue Shield NENY will no longer insure the college as of December 31, 2021. However, the Association agrees to waive any right to initiate a grievance against the College under this provision until May 1, 2022.
2. The parties acknowledge the College is applying for membership in the New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP), as administered by the New York State Department of Civil Service. The parties agree to jointly form a health care labor management committee, which will meet at least monthly to discuss matters concerning the College's application to NYSHIP and other insurance plans available to bargaining unit members. Insofar as legally permissible, the College agrees to make available to the committee documents and communications concerning its application to NYSHIP and other insurance plans.
3. If the College is deemed eligible to join the NYSHIP Empire Plan, the College agrees to offer the NYSHIP Empire Plan as a primary plan or a congruent primary plan to the bargaining unit members. Upon offering NYSHIP Empire Plan or such other congruent plan to unit members, the Association agrees to remove the Blue Shield NENY provision from Article XVII (A).
4. If the College does not offer the NYSHIP Empire Plan as a primary plan to unit members or does not provide a congruent primary plan to unit members by May 1, 2022, the Association reserves the right to file a grievance within thirty (30) days of May 1, 2022. The parties agree a grievance filed within thirty (30) days of May 1, 2022 will not be rejected for timeliness.
5. The College agrees to pay the four (4) bargaining unit members enrolled in the Blue Shield NENY 908 plan as of December 31, 2021, a one-time lump sum payment of \$1,000.00 (individual) and \$2,000.00 (family) if they join the College's CDPHP or MVP plans as of January 1, 2022.