Determining Whether A New Staff Member Or Adjunct Faculty Member Is Full Time For The Purposes Of The Affordable Care Act

At the date of hire, does the supervisor/hiring department reasonably expect the employee\(^1\) to work, on average, 30 hours per week or 130 hours per month for a period of greater than three months\(^2\)?

To calculate adjunct faculty work hours for ACA purposes, use the formula on the Adjunct Appointment Processing form.

\[\text{At the date of hire, does the supervisor/hiring department reasonably expect the employee to work, on average, 30 hours per week or 130 hours per month for a period of greater than three months?}\]

\[\text{To calculate adjunct faculty work hours for ACA purposes, use the formula on the Adjunct Appointment Processing form.}\]

\[\text{NO}\]

This employee is a “part time” or “variable hour” employee. No offer of coverage must be made at the date of hire. The hiring department may wish to begin to budget for potential costs of offering coverage at a later date (i.e. the stability period described below).

\[\text{At the date of hire, does the supervisor/hiring department reasonably expect the employee to work, on average, 30 hours per week or 130 hours per month for a period of greater than three months?}\]

\[\text{NO}\]

The employee’s hours must then be measured for 12 months beginning on the employee’s date of hire (this is known as the “initial measurement period”).

\[\text{At the end of the measurement period: Did the employee average 30 or more hours of service per week, or 130 or more hours of service per month, during the preceding 12 months?}\]

\[\text{YES}\]

The employee must receive an offer of health care coverage for the 12-month period that immediately follows the end of the measurement period, provided the employee remains a University employee during that period (this second 12-month period is referred to as the “stability period”).

\[\text{The employee’s hours would then continue to be measured during the calendar year that begins after their date of hire (this is known as the “standard measurement period”).}\]

\[\text{The employee will not receive an offer of health care coverage for the 12-month period that immediately follows the end of the measurement period. This second 12-month period is referred to as the “stability period.”}\]

\[\text{Thereafter, the employee’s hours will be measured each calendar year (i.e. each standard measurement period) to determine his or her full-time status.}\]

Footnotes

1- Independent Contractors and Students: Independent contractors do not qualify as employees for ACA purposes, provided they are truly independent contractors per IRS guidelines. Student employment hours, with the exception of federal work study hours and bona fide internships, are taken into consideration for ACA purposes.

2, 3- Academic Breaks: These breaks (e.g. Thanksgiving, Spring Break) are not considered when determining whether a newly hired employee will reach the full-time threshold or in calculating a part-time or variable hour employee’s average work hours during a measurement period.