Syracuse University New Faculty Primer
A guide to the University campus, resources, and the Syracuse community
Welcome to Syracuse—both the University and the community. I’m confident that your departmental colleagues will assist you as you settle in, referring you to campus resources as well as places to go and things to do in Syracuse and Central New York.

You are arriving at a beautiful time of year, an exciting time in the University’s history under the leadership of Chancellor and President Kent Syverud—and, of course, the time when new students arrive and returning students and faculty reconnect and resume their work together.

Syracuse University is committed to your success and the success of your students. Look for announcements of campus events from SU News and invitations to a series of lunchtime conversations around topics of special interest to new faculty. These events are part of a three-year program for incoming faculty aimed at providing you with connections to University opportunities, resources and relationships with faculty across the campus.

Please contact me with any questions, ideas, or suggestions. You have come to a great place, and we look forward to all that you have to contribute to the future of Syracuse University.

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Local/regional information

A vibrant, welcoming area, at the crossroads of New York state

Syracuse is located in the “heart of New York” whose rich history ties it to the Erie Canal and the Underground Railroad, and the Women’s Rights Movement, as well as the Onondaga and Oneida Nations. Our rolling hills, tranquil lakes, and bountiful vineyards are a delight during colorful autumns, and winter snows transform our landscape into a perfect playground for winter sports enthusiasts. Summer brings outdoor arts and crafts events, a farmers’ market, the Great New York State Fair, as well as boating and water sports at local parks and beaches. Within just five hours of nearly every major eastern metro area, Syracuse is easily accessible from New York, Boston, Toronto, Washington D.C. and Philadelphia.

Here are just a few of the reasons Syracuse is an easy and livable place to call home:

Culture, shopping, and dining on the Connective Corridor
The corridor links campus to the museums, theaters, shops and restaurants of Armory Square, a 19th-Century warehouse district transformed into a stylish dining, retail, and entertainment hub. It’s home to the central business district for Central New York. Students, residents, and visitors traveling across the region frequent Armory Square to enjoy a dynamic, relaxed urban experience.

Fashionable, convenient housing options: Living Downtown
Downtown Syracuse offers various options, including condominiums, townhouses, and lofts in lively areas as historic Franklin Square, Plum Court, Center Armory, and Mission Landing.

Living in the University area and surrounding neighborhoods
Syracuse University maintains a “Home for Sale by Owner” listing. These are properties in the East Neighborhood or Outer Comstock Neighborhood, owned by an SU faculty or staff member and not listed with a realtor. Contact the University’s Real Estate Services Office at 315-443-2104, or visit realestate.syr.edu for more information.

Guaranteed Mortgage Program
In cooperation with participating financial institutions, SU’s Guaranteed Mortgage Program assists faculty and staff purchasing single or two family homes in the University and Downtown neighborhoods. The program is administered through the Syracuse University Real Estate Office. More information at realestate.syr.edu.

Quality area schools
Central New York prides itself on its quality K-12 education. There are a number of public and independent schools to meet your children’s educational needs within the city, through the Syracuse City School District, and in the surrounding suburbs. Various partnerships between SU and area schools provide enhanced programming and services within the Syracuse City School District.

Learn more about public area schools at ongov.net/about/schools.htm. Learn about private and independent schools at greatschools.org.

Convenient accommodations for faculty in transition
• University Sheraton: On campus - standard accommodations sheratonsyracuse.com 315-475-3000
• Parkview Hotel: one mile from campus - kitchenette, laundry, pet friendly theparkviewhotel.com 315-701-2600
• Crowne Plaza Syracuse: one mile from campus - standard amenities cpsyracuse.com 315-479-7000
• Hotel Skyler: less than one mile from campus - standard amenities hotelskyler.com 315-701-2613
• Homewood Suites Liverpool: six miles from campus - kitchenette, breakfast, pet friendly homewoodsuites3.hilton.com 315-451-3800
SU is a progressive, family-friendly employer, providing a suite of benefits responsive both to the diversity of its community and the many life changes people experience during their employment. Qualified employees are eligible for the majority of benefits immediately upon hire. Here is a sample of the many benefits offered to faculty:

**Health care insurance**
Comprehensive group medical and prescription drug plans are available to you and your eligible spouse/domestic partner and dependents.

**TIAA-CREF retirement**
After one year, you receive a University contribution to your retirement account equal to 10% of your base salary. The one-year waiting period may be waived for those joining SU from another accredited four-year institution. You may begin contributing to a Supplemental Retirement Annuity (SRA) immediately upon employment. Contributions can be made through pre-tax and/or after-tax payroll deduction.

**Dependent tuition benefit**
Tuition benefits, after completion of three years of service, for dependents attending Syracuse University or other participating institutions.

**Reritted tuition benefit**
Reritted tuition benefits for you and your spouse/domestic partner to be used toward graduate and undergraduate coursework.

**Dental and vision plans**
Preventive or comprehensive coverage for you, your eligible spouse/domestic partner, and dependents.

**Flexible spending accounts**
Optional pre-tax reimbursement accounts allow you to set aside money to pay for health and/or dependent care expenses.

**Faculty research and administrative leave**
Faculty members may apply for a research or administrative leave of absence. Leaves are granted to encourage scholarly research or creative activity. Faculty members are also eligible for family medical leave (FMLA) for certain family and medical reasons. More information at facultymanual.syr.edu.

**Parental leave**
In addition to maternity/disability leave, faculty members are eligible for parental leave. Primary caregivers of either gender may apply. More information at facultymanual.syr.edu.

**Disability benefits**
The University Salary Continuation Plan for faculty and exempt staff provides benefits for qualifying short- and long-term disabilities, at no cost to the employee. Eligible faculty and staff also may buy optional long term disability insurance.

**Life insurance**
Basic group life insurance with the option to purchase additional coverage. You may also purchase dependent life insurance.

**Home and auto insurance**
Optional group home and auto insurance provides a potential savings opportunity through group buying power.

More information at humanresources.syr.edu/benefits or 315-443-4042.
Faculty resources
Support and assistance for performing your work on campus

A number of academic, research, and administrative resources are available to assist you in your professional role at SU, including:

**Faculty Manual**
Brings together information about Syracuse University, the policies and rules governing the faculty, and the duties and privileges of the faculty. The Manual is available at facultymanual.syr.edu.

**Faculty Development**
The Office of Faculty Development sponsors events, provides resources, and offers consultation services in support of faculty professional development. The office oversees a three-year program of events and activities for new faculty beginning with New Faculty Welcome each August. More information at provost.syr.edu/faculty-support/.

**Information Technology and Services (ITS)**
ITS offers a variety of instructional services for faculty, including classroom technology support and training, equipment loan and rental services. More information at its.syr.edu.

Online Learning Services supports faculty using technology to enhance teaching, learning and research.

**Syracuse University Bookstore**
The bookstore sells textbooks, general books, computers and software, and general merchandise to the University community. The faculty and staff 10% discount applies on most purchases. More information at bookstore.syr.edu.

**Office of Research**
The office is responsible for all University resources directed to the support for research, including technology transfer and research integrity. More information at research.syr.edu.

**Office of Sponsored Programs**
The office assists faculty with submission of proposals for external support of research, scholarship, education and training, and service/outreach activities. More information at osp.syr.edu.

**SU Libraries**
SU’s six libraries provide research and educational resources to the University community.

- E.S. Bird Library
- Carnegie Library
- Geology
- Architecture Reading Room
- Belfer Audio Library and Archive
- The Syracuse University Libraries Facility

More information at library.syr.edu.
WorkLife initiatives strengthen a culture that supports your efforts to achieve balance in your work and personal life. Available programs and services include:

**Wellness Initiative**
The Wellness Initiative offers programs, services, and resources dedicated to encouraging a healthy balance in areas such as fitness, emotional health, nutrition, preventative health, stress reduction, and safety. More information at [wellness.syr.edu](http://wellness.syr.edu).

**Counseling**
Free and confidential counseling services are available to employees and their families through the Faculty Staff Assistance Program (FSAP). More information at [http://fsap.syr.edu](http://fsap.syr.edu) and 315-443-1087.

**Elder care**
The Faculty and Staff Assistance Program provides programs and services to address elder care issues for employed caregivers, including information, referral, and educational programs. Contact FSAP for details.

**Child care resources**
Many faculty members experience the rewards and challenges of parenting while balancing a productive work life. Syracuse University recognizes that a primary concern for you is how your children are cared for while you are involved in work.

Child care options include:

- **Early Education and Child Care Center**: A responsive educational full day program for infants, toddlers, and pre-schoolers. More information at [eeccc.syr.edu](http://eeccc.syr.edu) and 315-443-4482.

- **Bernice M. Wright Child Development Laboratory School**: High quality, developmentally appropriate education for toddlers and pre-schoolers (ages 2-5). More information at [falk.syr.edu/ChildFamilyStudies/BMW.aspx](http://falk.syr.edu/ChildFamilyStudies/BMW.aspx) and 315-443-2471.

More information at [humanresources.syr.edu/worklife/index.html](http://humanresources.syr.edu/worklife/index.html).
Dual career services
Resources and assistance for couples

Syracuse University can assist spouses and partners of new faculty with employment opportunities in academic and non-academic professions. In addition, Syracuse University is a member of the Upstate New York Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (UNY HERC), enabling area colleges and universities to work together to recruit and retain a diverse and qualified faculty and staff.

Syracuse University’s Dual Career Network (DCN) assists academic and non-academic partners of newly-hired faculty and senior administrators in their efforts to find employment in the Syracuse area. Each client receives personalized job search support depending on his or her unique needs and talents. While we cannot guarantee job placement, we facilitate the search process through networking, informational interviewing, and referrals both at SU and in the wider Syracuse community.

Services include:

• Information about job openings at Syracuse University, regional institutions of higher education (through membership in UNY-HERC), and other regional employers.

• Information on the Syracuse job market, including names and contact information for submitting applications.

• Letters of support and referrals for informational interviews, both at Syracuse University and with regional employers.

• Information about local companies and local employment trends.

• Referrals for assistance with your resume and cover letter, and interviewing techniques, if needed.

More information at dualcareer.syr.edu, dualcareer@syr.edu or 315-443-3973.

The UNY HERC website provides information and resources for those interested in working in higher education in Upstate New York, including faculty and staff job listings at all member institutions. Postings are updated daily. Site features include:

• Dual career search for positions in the same region.
• Job alert e-mails
• Relocation resources

Upstate New York HERC participating institutions:

Alfred State College of Technology
Paul Smith’s College
Bryant & Stratton College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Colgate University
Skidmore College
Cornell University
SUNY College at Cortland
Hamilton College
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Hobart William Smith Colleges
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Ithaca College
Tompkins Cortland Community College
Le Moyne College
University of Rochester
Monroe Community College
Utica College
Nazareth College of Rochester
Wells College
Onondaga Community College