

Visiting Faculty Program Compensation for Non-Summer Terms

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The Visiting Faculty Program (VFP) (<https://science.osti.gov/wdts/vfp>) seeks to increase the research competitiveness of faculty members and their students at institutions historically underrepresented in the research community in order to expand the workforce vital to the Department of Energy (DOE) mission areas. As part of the program, selected university/college faculty members collaborate with DOE laboratory research staff on a research project of mutual interest. Over the years, the VFP program has made positive contributions to faculty development through research engagement at DOE national laboratories. However, it has also been recognized that extended engagement of faculty members, particularly for those from underrepresented and underserved institutions, in research at DOE national laboratories is needed beyond the summer term currently offered, to help solidify research development outcomes for faculty participants. Starting Spring 2023, the VFP program will be extended to non-summer terms. The VFP program during a non-summer term will last 10 weeks, solely focusing on faculty members with no student participants.

The compensation for participating faculty in a non-summer VFP term includes two parts:

- 1) Participating faculty receive a 10-week stipend of \$15,000 during the program period. The VFP stipends are not intended as a replacement of, but in addition to, the salary that participating faculty receive from their home institution during a regular academic term. Participating faculty are reimbursed for one round trip domestic travel to the host laboratory (if permanent address is more than 50 miles from the host laboratory). Transportation expenses will be reimbursed on the basis of the most direct route. Travel by a private automobile will be reimbursed at the current government rate up to a maximum of \$500.00 or the cost of the lowest commercial airfare, whichever is lower. Travel by air will be reimbursed at the cost of the lowest commercial airfare. Housing information will be provided to visiting faculty prior to arrival at the host laboratory. In general, housing opportunities will vary from laboratory to laboratory. An allowance is available for visiting faculty placed at host laboratories that are unable to offer direct housing arrangements.
- 2) Participating faculty receive up to \$15,000 for teaching or course buyout at their home institution. A major challenge for faculty members from underrepresented institutions to focus on research during a regular academic term is balancing research development with teaching responsibilities at their home institutions. There exist a wide variety of methods for formulating the teaching or course buyout cost across higher education institutions. Typically, major contributing factors may include, but not limited to: cost for a substitute; the faculty member's annual salary (nine-months) and position description (pertaining to work load distribution); the work load model of the institution or department; and associated administrative overhead. Under the condition of approval by the home institution, an amount of up to \$15,000 will be provided to cover teaching or course buyout for a qualified faculty member who participates in a non-summer VFP term. If the buyout exceeds \$15,000, the participating faculty and the host DOE laboratory should work together and use the stipend funding allocated for the participating faculty to cover the additional amount required by their home institution.