

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about Professional Development Activities

1. Can any faculty member request resources for professional development?

All benefitted faculty can request resources in accord with the Policies and Procedures for Faculty Development document. Benefitted faculty are faculty in the following faculty series: the tenure line Professorial Series, the Professorial Series in University Libraries, the Teaching Professorial Series, the Clinical Professorial Series, the Professors of the Practice Series, and the Research Professorial Series.

2. Can I get whatever resources for professional development that I request?

Not necessarily. The administrative head of your academic unit must approve of your request. A request for professional development resources must be negotiated between the faculty member and the administrative head of the academic unit.

3. How much money is available for professional development activities?

That is yet to be determined. Funding is being sought from sources both inside and outside the university. Approving the Policies and Procedures for Faculty Development will likely put pressure on the administration to provide greater funding for professional development.

4. Doesn't the University already provide funding for professional development?

Yes, but we are seeking additional funding.

5. Will all faculty members be given the same resources for faculty development?

Distribution of resources will be determined when they become available. Most likely the distribution of resources will be determined by at the academic unit or divisional level.

5. Can the administrative head of my academic unit mandate that I engage in professional development activities?

If you have received a "warning for unsatisfactory performance" during three out of five years, the administrative head of your academic unit might mandate that you engage in professional development activities.

6. By what criteria can I be given a "warning of unsatisfactory performance"?

The criteria are established by your academic unit.

7. Can I appeal a "warning of unsatisfactory performance"?

Yes, the University has an Employee Grievance Process which allows faculty members to grieve administrative actions, which includes a warning of unsatisfactory performance. You can find that policy at:

www.du.edu/facsen

Select "Faculty Resources" at the top of the page

Select "Senate Documents" on the left-hand side of the page

Scroll down to find "Grievance Policy"