

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

*Criteria for Promotion to
Associate Professor of Practice and Professor of Practice*

Adopted: March 2024

The Department of Mathematics is committed to being a strong center of mathematics, including in the quality of instruction at all levels. Decisions to promote faculty members determine the future quality of a department and are thus among the most important decisions made by the university. This document describes some factors considered in decisions about promotion of Professors of Practice in the Department; a description of the procedure is in the Department's [Statement of Promotion and Retention Policy](#).

According to [University Policy](#), Professors of Practice may serve on graduate committees and as major professors for graduate students with department head approval and special appointment status from the Graduate School. Professors of Practice are also eligible to serve as principal investigators on proposals for external funding if such activity is consistent with the appointment's expectations.

Professors of Practice are not eligible for tenure. They are included in the total faculty count on the corresponding University campus when University Senate seats are reapportioned and in counts of full-time faculty from Institutional Data Analytics + Assessment. Professors of Practice are eligible to serve in the University Senate and on Senate committees. Professors of Practice are eligible for professional Research/Instructional/Engagement (R/I/E) leave at the discretion of the Head; they are not eligible for sabbatical leave.

The promotion criteria listed below are intended as useful information both for faculty seeking promotion and for members of the Department's Promotions Subcommittee and the Primary Committee, who are responsible for evaluating candidates' credentials. The Promotions Subcommittee provides annual written feedback through the Department Head to Assistant and Associate Professors of Practice. It comments on teaching, mentoring and service, on any research

engagement and visibility in the university and beyond, and on general progress toward promotion.

Candidates for promotion will be evaluated based on their **teaching, mentoring, scholarly activities, and service**. The promotion guidelines listed below are not intended as a comprehensive checklist for promotion. These will serve to guide the discussions in the Promotions Subcommittee and the Primary Committee, and each candidate will be evaluated in the context provided by their full record.

1. The Department expects sustained excellence in teaching. Evidence for this may include excellent course and periodic peer evaluations, achievement in areas such as classroom efficacy; course development; curriculum development; teaching innovation; course administration; creating course materials.

2. The Department expects sustained mentoring activities. Evidence for this may include directing students in research or scholarly activities; organizing participation in mathematics competitions and outreach; writing recommendations for career opportunities; providing career counseling; organizing professional development workshops; mentoring of graduate and undergraduate Teaching Assistants; mentoring other faculty; identifying and recommending students for scholarships and grants; mentoring of undergraduate students through disciplinary organizations and societies to increase Purdue students' visibility at regional and national levels.

3. The Department expects scholarly activities. Evidence for this may include creating curricular materials and making them available to others; publishing textbooks; engaging in scholarship of teaching and learning; presenting at conferences or other venues within and outside Purdue University; and applying for and receiving grants. Evidence for scholarly activities could also include publications in disciplinary research; only papers that have been published or accepted for publication will be evaluated.

4. The Department expects service activities and values engagement in the mathematical community at all levels. Evidence for this may include active participation in departmental, college or university committees; mathematical outreach, such as to K-12 schools, media, or giving public lectures; organizing or facilitating undergraduate research conferences and mathematics competitions; engaging in peer review work; consulting activities with scientific value; serving on panels; leadership in or service to professional organizations.

The successful candidate for promotion to Associate Professor of Practice is expected to have external visibility or potential for national recognition in their professional activities. The successful candidate for promotion to Full Professor of Practice must demonstrate national recognition and a very high level of professional

accomplishment. At least one letter from an outside expert will be solicited for promotion to Full Professor of Practice.

Departmental procedures conform to the procedures and policies of the College of Science and of Purdue University. These can be found at the following links:

<https://www.purdue.edu/science/about/faculty-and-staff/resources/faculty-development/index.html>

<https://www.purdue.edu/provost/faculty/resources/clinical.html>

<https://www.purdue.edu/policies/human-resources/vif10.html>