**Probationary (Tenure Track) Appointment Letters for Employment**: This is a template for preparing appointment letters for appointments as tenure track faculty members. The sections in **purple** are to be edited. **A copy of your proposed letter should accompany the Request to Appoint when it is circulated for approvals**.

Print on your college/department letterhead

Date:

Name

Street address

City, State, Zip

Dear XXX:

This letter is to offer you a probationary tenure-track appointment to the faculty of the College/School of XXX [College] at the University of North Dakota (UND) under the following terms:

* Position/Title/Rank: XXXXX [*Assistant Professor, Associate Professor*]
* Program: XXX[Department/Division], XXX [School/College]
* Percent of full-time equivalent (FTE): XXX [ e.g., 1.00; .75; .50]
* Period of Appointment: [DATE] to [DATE]
* Salary for Period of Appointment: $ XXX
* Benefits as allowed by law.
* Credit towards tenure: Pursuant to State Board of Higher Education policy 605.1, you are awarded \_\_\_\_ years of credit towards tenure. The probationary period is limited to 6 years of continuous academic service, excluding an extension to the term granted only in exceptional circumstances. The \_\_ year(s) of tenure credit awarded will be regarded as academic service to the institution and, absent exceptional circumstances, your probationary period is limited to \_\_ years and you will be expected to apply for tenure and promotion in the fall of academic year [AY] [**Tenure credit guidance:** New hires with prior applicable experience (academic or otherwise) may be awarded *up to three years of credit toward tenure.* Years of credit are *outlined in the offer letter* at the time of hire *and are binding*. If it is decided to award years of credit, it must be documented in the offer letter for the tenure-track position]

1. **Responsibilities:**

Your teaching, research, and service responsibilities are determined by the Department of XXX and are subject to change based on the needs of the Department and/or School/College. These responsibilities/duties may change periodically as a result of annual evaluations and goal-setting.

1. **Teaching (\_\_\_%):** Your teaching assignment is based on 10% effort per 3-credit course and will be [e.g. a #/# or \_\_\_ to \_\_\_ credits per semester]. Should enrollment fluctuate, causing cancellation of any course section you have been assigned to teach, the course could be replaced or the percent time of your appointment or your assignment will be adjusted. As a member of our teaching faculty, you are expected to participate in the course-instructor evaluations, use Blackboard as your LMS, and use our early alert system (Starfish). Questions concerning your course assignment, which are determined by the Department Chair, should be addressed to XXX at XXX.

Instructors teaching online courses who have not completed online training as provided by the Teaching Transformation and Development Academy (TTaDA) within the past three years will be expected to complete the TTaDA Blackboard course entitled, “Best Practices for Online Course Development,” or, if recommended by TTaDA staff, an advanced course module within 30 days of the start of your period of appointment**. [Remove if not applicable].**

1. **Scholarly/Creative Activity (\_\_\_%)**:
2. **Service (\_\_\_%):**
3. **Administration:** [Remove if not applicable]
4. **Professional Responsibilities**: All probationary? faculty shall demonstrate professional behavior when interacting with students, colleagues and individuals in all settings.
5. **Policies General:** Your appointment to this position is subject to the policies, rules and regulations of the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education (SBHE), the University of North Dakota, the School/College and their respective departments or units, and the laws of the United Sates and the State of North Dakota, as amended.

The Faculty Handbook (found here: <http://und.edu/university-senate/faculty-handbook/>) covers Faculty evaluation policies and Grievance Policies applicable to Probationary Appointments.

1. **Termination of Appointment:** UND may terminate a probationary appointment with or without cause at any time during the probationary period subject to the procedural requirements stated in UND and SBHE policies.
2. **Additional Terms**. [INSTRUCTIONS: These terms must not be inconsistent with other provisions of this agreement or with SBHE and UND policies and procedures to which the Appointee is subject.]
   1. Office Space and Equipment [if applicable]: XXX and XXX will be provided. [Example: You will be provided a standard faculty office equipped with a desk and other office furnishings. The department will also supply a computer, printer and software sufficient necessary for meeting performance obligations of appointment.]
   2. If you will be teaching online classes from a distance, you must complete Remote Worksite paperwork and have a system compatible computer at your disposal.
   3. **[For new on-campus FT Benefitted Faculty with 8/16 start date]:** You will be required to attend New Faculty Orientation that will be held shortly after your first day of appointment. You will receive a separate invitation to the New Faculty Orientation prior to your start date. **[For new on-campus PT Faculty with 8/16 start date**]: You will be invited to participate in New Faculty Orientation that will be held shortly after your first day of appointment. You will receive a separate invitation to the New Faculty Orientation prior to your start date.
   4. Moving Expenses: You will be paid a lump sum of $XXXX for moving expenses. The payment for moving expenses is in accordance with UND policy and North Dakota SBHE Policy 806.3. Tax treatment is governed by Internal Revenue Service regulations.
   5. Other:
3. **Other Conditions**.
   1. This offer is subject to approval by the UND Office of Equal Opportunity & Title IX.
   2. This offer is subject to the final approval of the Human Resources Office.
   3. This offer is subject to satisfactory completion of a Criminal History Background Check through UND Human Resources.
   4. Salaries are subject to required federal and state deductions, and other deductions that you may authorize.
   5. This offer is contingent upon proof of eligibility to work in accordance with federal law. This includes securing valid immigration status and work authorization before expected start date and maintaining valid immigration status and work authorization throughout, if applicable. Federal law requires all employers to verify the identity and employment eligibility of all new employees within three business days of the first day of your employment. **[For new employees or returning employees who were not actively employed by UND for a period exceeding 12 months include the following sentences:]** Employees are required to complete a Form I-9 no later than the first day of employment and must provide employers with documents establishing both identity and, if applicable, eligibility to work in the United States.  Information on the process can be found at the forms section of the UND payroll website or at <http://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/files/form/i-9.pdf> .
   6. This offer is contingent upon receipt of official transcripts from the awarding institution of your highest degree, which shall be provided to the College no later than the effective date of employment.
   7. You will be required to review and acknowledge the University’s policies and procedures and complete training applicable to your position. Shortly after your start date you will receive emailed instructions for completing the training through Vector Solutions, UND’s on-line training platform.
4. **Miscellaneous:** This Agreement supersedes any previous Agreement and the terms and conditions stated above constitute the entire Agreement between the parties. This Agreement may not be modified except by means of a written amendment signed by the parties. If any term of this Agreement is declared by a court having jurisdiction to be illegal or unenforceable, the validity of the remaining terms will remain in effect, and, if possible, the rights and obligations of the parties are to be construed and enforced as if the Agreement did not contain that term.

Please confirm your acceptance of this appointment by signing and dating the agreement and returning to the College of XXX Dean’s Office and a copy provided to Department Chair. Until signed by you and UND, this agreement constitutes only an offer of employment by UND and not an agreement between the parties. This offer of employment expires if a signed copy is not received by the [School/College] within two weeks of receipt.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NAME, Department Chair Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NAME, Dean Date

I accept the above appointment and salary under the conditions offered above and attest that the credentials reflected in the curriculum vitae submitted with my application are correct.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Hire Date