

CSUF Faculty Onboarding Checklist

This checklist has been created by the [Faculty Development Center](#) (FDC) to support you with your onboarding experience at California State University Fullerton. We hope this helps you become a connected, productive, and thriving member of the Titan community!

I. Start Strong!

- Complete required new hire paperwork and make sure you are prepared to provide important hire documentation, including proof of eligibility to work in the U.S.
- If you need information to file for a work visa, [contact Human Resources, Diversity and Inclusion \(HRDI\)](#). Ideally, this should happen as soon as you accept the position.
- Plan to attend Foundations (orientation) for new full-time or part-time faculty (depending on your employment type) – look for an email with dates and times.
- You should have been assigned a Campus Wide ID (CWID). This is how the campus will identify you instead of using your social security number. If you don't know your CWID, [you can look it up](#).
- Download and review the university [Faculty Handbook](#) – (the new handbook for your hire year doesn't post until the new contracts start in August); it introduces you to everything from the mission and strategic plan of the university to payroll procedures.
- Purchase your [parking permit](#) online or [get paid for using alternative transportation](#). If you would like your parking [deducted from your paycheck](#), you will need to visit the office of Parking and Transportation Services. Electric Vehicle (EV) parking is available across campus to charge an electric vehicle. Faculty/Staff with a semester or annual permit may complete the [EV Permit Application](#) for a free supplemental EV Permit.
- Get your [CSUF TitanCard](#) (university identification card).
- Each department may have a different way of orienting you to their specific procedures, so check with your chair and/or department office staff.
Here are the top 10 questions:
 1. When will I get my teaching schedule?
 2. Where is my office?
 3. What time should I report to my department on my first day?
 4. Where can I access a department directory?
 5. How do I get keys to classrooms, offices, and classroom computer equipment (if needed)?
 6. How do I get computer access, email account, laptop/iPad, desktop?
 7. Are there faculty meetings or department events that I must attend or can attend?
 8. How can I learn about the specific department standards and protocols (such as adding/dropping students from classes, photocopying, typical course grade distributions, emergency procedures, etc.)?
 9. What [University Policy Statements](#) (UPS) should I be familiar with before teaching?
 10. What is the evaluation procedure for my position?

- Prepare your syllabi, consistent with **UPS 300.004**. If you are scheduled to teach an online or hybrid class, you will want to also add requirements put forth in **UPS 411.104**. Academic Programs provides an [accessible syllabus template](#). The FDC offers other [basic teaching resources](#) to help you.
 - Provide office hours to your department as required by **UPS 230.020**.
- Ensure your office hours are posted outside your office.
- Testing materials are available to all students at no cost – [order through Titan Shops](#)
- Begin to become familiar with our learning management system (LMS) called Canvas. You can access [CSUF Canvas self-help guides](#) and [self-help guides from Canvas](#) 24/7 online, visit the [Academic Technology Center](#) to meet in-person with a [Canvas consultant](#) or [sign up for a virtual meeting](#). You can also sign up for workshops to support your online teaching via the [FDC](#). Finally, [each college is assigned an Instructional Designer](#) who will meet with you to design your course from the ground up.
- Plan your commute. Note that some [parking lots](#) fill quickly during certain days/times.

II. Before the Start of the Semester

- As the campus becomes more active in preparation for the new semester, walk around and introduce yourself to office staff, student assistants, and teaching colleagues.
- If you'll be accessing your email or other campus computer systems with your home laptop or mobile device, you can get help with the settings from the Academic Technology Center (ATC) staff in the Faculty Commons in Pollak Library South (PLS) Room 237.
- Fill out your forms, such as W-4, and sign up for direct deposit. Direct deposit enrollment is done via [Cal Employee Connect \(CEC\)](#). If you have any questions, contact your department coordinator or the Payroll Office at x2521.
- If you qualify for benefits, attend a Benefits Orientation offered by Total Wellness, [Health Care Benefits & Plans](#). Log in to the Faculty Portal, once there under, "Titan Online", click on, "Employee Homepage" and under "Employee Self-Services" you will find your benefit information on the "CSU Benefits Summary" tile.
- Review all emails from your department and university administrators regarding beginning of the semester procedures such as getting access to class rosters, how to add/drop students at specific time points, etc.
- Get settled in your workspace/office:
 - CSUF is a [Zoom phone](#) campus. Download the [Zoom app](#) on your campus computer and [create your voicemail message](#).
 - Create your campus [email signature](#) using your [outlook account](#). You will use the "inbox" when you correspond with students through Canvas. There isn't a signature line, but students will know it is from you and can respond directly.
 - Work with your department's office manager or coordinator on supplies you need to get started and order your business cards if needed.
- Get more familiar with campus and its resources:
 - Take a [virtual tour](#)
 - Learn about [eateries on campus](#) and note their hours of operation.
 - Learn about the [Employee Wellness Program \(EWP\)](#) and [Recreation Center](#) (workout facilities)

- Explore the [bookstore](#), the [Arboretum](#), the [Clayes Performing Arts Center](#), the [Titan Student Union](#), the [Pollak library](#), the [Quad](#), and [Titan Walkway](#) (see [campus maps](#))
- Learn about the Library's resources and services, for both your research and teaching. The Library's website is: [Library website](#). The Library's online guide for faculty is: [Library Guides](#) Your subject consultant (liaison) Librarians are: [Library Subject Consultants](#).
- Schedule time to complete compliance trainings – you will receive emails about accessing online training pertaining to important matters such as general campus safety, sexual harassment, and FERPA. To complete this training, log in to the Faculty Portal and use the search box on the left-hand side to search for the [Employee Training Center](#). Click, “ETC Login” and then, “Assigned Learning”. Your required online training sessions will be listed.
- Submit required information (professional profile/bio/photo) to your department staff.
- Learn how to [view your class rosters](#).
- Explore the Faculty Commons in Pollak Library South 2nd Floor – here you will find services provided by the Academic Technology Center (ATC), Faculty Development Center (FDC), and Faculty Affairs and Records (FAR).
- Log-on to Canvas by logging into the portal and selecting, “Canvas” to ensure that you can view your courses. If you can't see your courses, contact your Department Chair.
- Check your personal information to ensure it is current. Log in to the Faculty Portal, and use the search box on the left-hand side to search, “Employee Homepage”. Under “Employee Self-Services,” the third tile is “CSU Personal Details.” Update your emergency contact information. CSUF uses this system to notify employees and students of closures and emergencies.

III. First Weeks of the Semester

- As you have questions, remember that the [Faculty Handbook](#) is a great reference. You may also want to reach out to your chair, a teaching colleague, and/or department staff.
- You may start thinking about how to grow as an educator or use technology effectively in your teaching. There are a range of resources at the [Faculty Development Center](#) (FDC) including online resources and workshops.
- Learn more about CSUF, your students, and colleagues through the daily emails titled [CSUF News Update](#) and the free [Daily Titan](#) newspaper at newsstands across campus.
- Begin to get familiar with the faculty evaluation processes used for tenure-track faculty and lecturers through the [Faculty Affairs and Records](#) website.
- You may encounter students in distress – so review the [Red Folder guide sheet](#) to understand how you can best help them. In addition, visit the [Student Wellness website](#) for additional information.
- Continue to review all emails from your department and university administrators regarding procedures such as how to add/drop students at specific time points.

IV. First Few Months of the Semester

- Check your paystub online. Log in to the Faculty Portal, use the search box on the left-hand side to search, “Employee Homepage”. Under “Employee Self-Service,” the fourth tile is “View Paycheck Cal Employee” to view your paystub under the Earnings tab. If you have any questions, contact your department coordinator or the Payroll Office at x2521. You will first need to register with [Cal Employee Connect](#).
- Try to attend social, entertainment, and athletic events on campus. This is a great way to meet and network with faculty and staff. These dates are listed on the [Events Calendar](#) and reminders go out via *CSUF News Update* emails.
- Explore employee [discounts for local entertainment and attractions](#)
- If you’ll be doing research, take [IRB Training](#) through the Research Compliance Office.
- Start to think about your broader professional development. Visit the [Faculty Development Center Newsletter](#) for upcoming workshops.
- During this time, your department will plan future course schedules. You may want to discuss future teaching interests and opportunities with your department chair.

V. Plan Ahead: Your First Year

- If you qualify for [benefits](#), now is a good time to do a review and make sure they are working for you. Every fall you have the opportunity to make changes to your benefits during [open enrollment](#). These changes take effect on January 1. You can also make changes to your benefits during the year with a qualifying life event.
 - Become more informed about the faculty evaluation processes used for tenure-track faculty and lecturers through the [Faculty Affairs and Records](#) website. Consult with your department chair or colleagues for advice, training, or other resources to help you.
 - Take advantage of [Health and Wellness discounts and programs](#) for CSUF employees.
-