

OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR
FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

November 2, 2017

To: Graduate Faculty, Deans, Program Directors, Department Chairs, Directors and Business Managers, Department Administrators, and Postdoctoral Association President

**RE: Mandatory Minimum Postdoctoral Salary Determination** 

Dear Colleagues:

UNMC has a longstanding policy of following a mandatory minimum salary for freshman postdoctoral scholars. The minimum salary is updated every year based on the NIH Stipend Levels for Postdoctoral Trainees and Fellows as listed by the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NSRA) and then multiplied by the cost of living index (COLI) for Omaha, Nebraska.

The Postdoctoral Education Advisory Council revisited this formula on September 5, 2017. During this meeting the formula for determining the yearly minimum salary was reconfirmed. However, the council unanimously recommended determining the COLI by averaging the figures provided by Sperling's Best Places and the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce or Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (whichever has the current update).

This recommendation was based on the fact that the COLI figures varied among the providers and averaging the high and low COLI for the year represented the fairest way in the interest of both the scholars and faculty mentors.

The council also recommended that in the event the COLI falls below the previous year, the minimum salary for the current year would not decrease.

Thank you very much for your understanding.

Sincerely,

H. Dele Davies, MD, MS, MHCM Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dean for Graduate Studies

Iqbal Ahmad, PhD

Associate Dean for Postdoctoral Education

Academic Affairs