

**Texas Tech University School of Law**  
**Policy on Appointment & Continuing Appointment for Clinical Instructors**

**Approved April 9, 2018; Revised February 15, 2023**

**I. Purpose of Policy**

The purpose of this Law School policy is (i) to ensure that the appointment of clinical instructors in the Law School broadly parallels the appointment of tenure-track professors of law with an appropriate recognition of faculty governance in faculty appointments, and (ii) to ensure that the continuing-appointment process is in compliance with TTU OP 32.34 and ABA Standard 405(c). This policy should be interpreted in the context of governing policies and standards.

**II. Clinical Instructor Security of Position**

The title clinical instructor is an outward-facing title that the Law School uses for lecturers teaching in the Law School clinics. Under TTU OP 32.34, a lecturer is a full-time, faculty-employee who is not eligible for tenure but who is eligible for continuing appointment, a form of security of position meeting the requirements of ABA Standard 405(c).

**III. Criteria for Appointments of Clinical Instructors**

For clinical instructors, the criteria for appointment are (i) “excellence in teaching and communicating knowledge of the law” as defined in the Law School’s Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure Policy and (ii) “excellence in national, state, community, University, Law School, or professional service” as defined in the Law School’s Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure policy.

“Excellence in writing and research,” as defined by the Law School’s Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure policy, is not required for the continuing appointment of clinical instructors, although the presence of such materials can be considered favorably as potential additional evidence of excellence in teaching and/or excellence in service.

**IV. Process for Appointments of Clinical Instructors**

The process for the appointment of clinical-instructor faculty in the Law School follows the same basic process as the appointment of tenure-track professors of law as established in the Law School’s Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure Policy except where otherwise stated in this policy. This parallel process extends to the duties of the Appointments Committee, the preliminary selection of candidates, on-campus visits for interviews, committee recommendations on appointments, faculty votes on appointments (under the eligibility rules stated in Section V of this policy), the extension of offers to candidates, and the duty of the committee and the dean to keep faculty fully informed during the process.

## **V. Faculty Eligible to Vote on Appointments of Clinical Instructors**

Professors of law at all ranks, professors of practice at all ranks, and clinical instructors at all ranks are eligible to vote on the appointment of Law School clinical instructors.

## **VI. Approval of and Criteria for Clinical Instructors for Continuing Appointment**

Under TTU OP 32.34, faculty members appointed to lecturer positions may seek continuing appointment by majority vote of the tenured professors of law and the non-tenure-track faculty (clinical instructors and professors of practice) who have continuing appointment in the Law School. The official vote should be held in the fall of the sixth year on the same cycle as occurs for consideration of tenure and promotion. Final continuing appointment status is subject to approval by the Law School dean and the TTU Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.

For clinical instructors, the criteria for the continuing appointment—and thus security of position—is the same as the criteria for appointment set forth in Section III above.

## **VII. Review Committees**

The Dean shall appoint Continuing-appointment Review Committees to prepare reports, including a third-year review report, for the faculty to aid in the evaluation of Law School clinical instructors.