

# Welcome New Faculty Members: Understanding Your PD Requirements

Published 7/16/2024 by [Ashley Ribbel](#)

Welcome to your new role at Seneca Polytechnic! We are excited to have you on our faculty team. As you embark on this journey with us, it's important to familiarize yourself with your professional development (PD) requirements. These requirements ensure that all faculty members, regardless of their employment status, have opportunities to enhance their skills, stay current in their fields, and contribute effectively to our academic community.

We look forward to supporting you in your professional growth and development at Seneca!

For more information about the Teaching & Learning Centre and how we can support you, visit [senecapolytechnic.ca/teaching](https://senecapolytechnic.ca/teaching). Visit [our calendar](#) to see our upcoming PD offerings, such as courses, workshops, and events. If you have any questions, you can email us at [teaching@senecapolytechnic.ca](mailto:teaching@senecapolytechnic.ca).

Below are the professional development requirements for full-time and non-full-time faculty members:

- [Professional Development Requirements for Full-time Faculty](#)
- [Professional Development Requirements for Non Full-time Faculty](#)
- [Professional Development Plan for Non Full-time Faculty](#) – these courses are open to all faculty members and instructors

## Professional Development Requirements for Full-Time Faculty

The following are the professional development requirements through the Teaching & Learning Centre for newly-hired full-time faculty members:

- Participate in the Micro-teaching Sessions or the Teaching & Learning Summer Conference
- Attend New Faculty Orientation
- Complete the Faculty Development Program bundles of courses

**Micro-teaching Sessions** or the **Teaching & Learning Summer Conference** focuses on teaching strategies, assessment, and using technology in your class. Micro-teaching is when a group of faculty members observe others teaching short lessons and provide feedback. It requires active participation as a portion of this two-day event is dedicated to creating and delivering short lessons in small groups.

☒ Next offering: [Micro-teaching Sessions](#) on Aug. 21-22, 2025; online

**New Faculty Orientation** is a one-day events that provides an overview of the services and supports that impact teaching practice at Seneca. It concludes with a workshop about the use of Learn@Seneca (Seneca's branded version of Blackboard, our Learning Management System).

☒ Next offering: [New Faculty Orientation](#) on Aug. 25, 2025 at Newnham Campus

**The Faculty Development Program** is designed to help faculty develop and/or demonstrate teaching-related competencies in a flexible and practical way. It consists of three bundles. Due to the pre-requisites, the Faculty Development Program bundles of courses must be taken and completed in order.

☒ Next offering: The [First Bundle in the Faculty Development Program](#) runs on Tuesdays from 9:50 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Newnham Campus in fall 2025.

## Professional Development Requirements for Non Full-Time Faculty

Your primary professional development requirement as a new non full-time faculty member is to attend a Teaching & Learning Centre Orientation session. It will provide you with valuable information on how to get started teaching at Seneca.

**New Faculty Orientation** is a one-day events that provides an overview of the services and supports that impact teaching practice at Seneca. It concludes with a workshop about the use of Learn@Seneca (Seneca's branded version of Blackboard, our Learning Management System).

☒ Next offering: [New Faculty Orientation](#) on Aug. 25, 2025 at Newnham Campus

We understand that some of you may have prior commitments on the date of the New Faculty Orientation. If you are unable to attend the in-person session due to these commitments, you may opt to join this online session instead. This session will cover

valuable information on getting started with teaching at Seneca and will be offered more than once early in the term to accommodate different schedules.

☒ Next offering: [New Faculty Orientation for Non Full-time Faculty on Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025 at 4 p.m. Eastern](#)

We're excited to introduce our [Professional Development Plan for Non Full-time Faculty Members](#). This plan, integrated into Seneca's micro-credentials system, offers you the opportunity to enhance your skills and earn micro-credentials (digital badges) for each course completion. **These courses are open to all faculty members and instructors.**

Visit the [PD Plan page](#) to see the courses in the plan that are being offered each term. Before registering for one of these courses, please inform your Chair that you are interested in registering for a course from the PD Plan for Non Full-time Faculty Members.