

The New School is required to send you this notice regarding the Plan's new default investment alternative. The information contained in this notice is mandated under the Department of Labor final regulations on Qualified Default Investment Alternatives (QDIAs).

The New School Retirement Plan

Default Investment Notice

As a participant in The New School Retirement Plan (the "Plan"), you have the right to invest your Plan account in a broad range of investment alternatives. While the University encourages you to direct the investment of your account in the Plan by logging into your account at www.tiaa-cref.org/newschool if you fail to do so, contributions to your Plan account will automatically be invested in a qualified default investment alternative ("Default Investment Fund") in accordance with Department of Labor regulations § 2550.404c-5(e), until you elect otherwise.

The Default Investment Fund selected for the Plan is the special set of mutual funds offered by TIAA-CREF that are known as the age-based TIAA-CREF Lifecycle Fund that corresponds to your estimated date of retirement (collectively, the "Lifecycle Funds"). The Lifecycle Funds provide a ready-made diversified portfolio using TIAA-CREF mutual funds as underlying investments that include both equity and fixed-income instruments. The allocation strategy for the underlying equity, fixed-income, and short-term mutual funds is based on the number of years expected to reach the target retirement dates. The Lifecycle Funds seek to provide high total returns until the target retirement date. Each of the Lifecycle Fund's goal is to seek high current income and as a secondary objective, capital appreciation. Each Lifecycle Fund's target asset allocation percentages will automatically change over time to become more conservative by gradually reducing the allocation to equity funds and increasing the allocation to fixed-income and short-term funds.

As of September 30, 2013 the net expense ratios associated with the various Lifecycle Funds (Lifecycle Fund 2010, Lifecycle Fund 2015, Lifecycle Fund 2020, Lifecycle Fund 2025, Lifecycle Fund 2030, Lifecycle Fund 2035, Lifecycle Fund 2040, Lifecycle Fund 2045, Lifecycle Fund 2050, and Lifecycle Fund 2055) ranged from 0.64 percent to 0.74 percent.) The attached fact sheets for the Lifecycle Funds provide additional information.

Distributions from 403(b) plans before age 59½, severance from employment, death, or disability may be prohibited, limited, and/or subject to substantial tax penalties. Different restrictions may apply to other types of plans.

If the Default Investment Fund changes at any time in the future, you will be notified.

You have the right to change the investment of your Plan account at any time, in accordance with the Plan's procedures. The investment of your Plan account in the Lifecycle Fund appropriate for you will not impair your right to make future investment decisions regarding your account. This will be the case even if contributions have already been allocated to your Plan account. You may change the manner in which your account is invested and/or transfer out of the Default Investment Fund in accordance with the Plan's procedures. If you elect to change the investment of your account from the Lifecycle Fund, there are no fees or expenses imposed in connection with that transfer. But certain restrictions may apply if multiple transfers are made from any one account during any 60-day period. See

the fund prospectus at: www.tiaa-cref.org/prospectuses for more details on restrictions on frequent transfers.

To select your own investment options and designate a beneficiary, review the How To Enroll Online sheet provided directing you to www.tiaa-cref.org/newschool. Prior to making investment choices, you should also review investment performance and fee information at www.tiaa-cref.org/newschool by clicking on *Plans and Investments*. Under The New School Retirement Plan click on *More about this plan and investment choices*. Then go to *Compare Investment Performance*. Paper versions of the performance and fee information are available upon request at no cost to you.

To speak with a TIAA-CREF representative, call the TIAA-CREF Telephone Counseling Center at 800.842.2252 (Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. EST; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST).

If you have any questions about this notice or the Plan, please contact the University's Benefits Staff at:

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