Section 3 of the SOJC NTTF Professional Responsibilities policy provides that the dean or their designee may allocate course releases consistent with guidelines that establish priorities for granting course releases to faculty who engage in research, creative activity, or innovative professional projects.

The guidelines below address the criteria that the dean or designee will use to allocate course releases consistent with the policy.

- Budgetary considerations.
- Course buyouts.
- Engagement in research, creative activity, or innovative professional projects beyond the norm, and as budgetary considerations allow.
- Administrative service or appointment beyond the norm, and as budgetary considerations allow.
- Teaching and/or advising demands beyond the norm (new preps, number or preps, advisee load), and as budgetary considerations allow.