# The Right Process The Right Perspectives The Right Compensation for Your Institution's Leaders and Staff

Bridging fairness with compensation strategies, planning and benefit structures for non-profit organizations including independent schools





**Prosperity Perpetuation®** 

Concepts, Strategy & Management

www.calfeefinancial.com

#### Peter H. Calfee

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## Compensation for Your Institution's Leaders and Staff

Get compensation and benefits for your organization right, and everyone—board, staff and executive director, president or head—works in concert to lead your

institution and achieve its unique strategic vision.

Get it wrong and leadership and staff can become de-motivated and the board resentful with significant consequences.
Fully-qualified

and retainable individuals soon depart.

Momentum for strategic initiatives—
fundraising campaigns, endowment
development and new construction—
dissipates. There can be a potentially

lingering loss of focus, time and opportunity as day-to-day morale declines.

The solution? Fair compensation that bridges the interests of all parties.



### A Process for Bridging Fairness

Typically, board members and organization leaders are uncomfortable with compensation negotiations. Many do not understand, appreciate or embrace the issues, possibilities and ramifications. And everyone differs as to what is "FAIR."

Fortunately, with the right process, you can engineer successful, lasting, tax-effective and rewarding compensation packages for leadership and staff.



As a board, you want the president, head or executive director to lead, nurture, grow—and stay. You need to understand the foundation for compensation agreements and be confident leaders and staff will vigorously pursue your organization's mission undistracted by financial concerns.

As president, head or executive director, you want to stay, lead and contribute to your institution or school. You need to have the support of the board, and your personal, financial and family needs meaningfully addressed.



#### Together, you desire

to come to agreement on a compensation program that builds the bridge to what all see as fair—because the goal is valued contribution and longevity of service for the benefit of your institution.



#### **Significant Responsibilities and Expectations**

Much like the CEOs of for-profit multi-million dollar operations, non-profit institution leaders manage substantial enterprises with many challenges:

- "Profit and loss" responsibilities including day-today management of operations.
- Communication with constituents as to the value of your institution.
- Expectations to attract, retain and continually motivate faculty, staff and administrators.
- Raising capital and monitoring financing issues.
- Development of endowment resources.
- Mandated benefit and retirement requirements.
- Long-range strategic planning.
- Survive and thrive in an ever-changing culture.

#### **Bridging Differing Starting Points**

Initially, no organization head or board chair defines "FAIR" the same way. Calfee Financial will assist your organization in bridging these positions to provide a win-win solution. There is no "zero-sum" aspect to what we do.

The goal is to arrive collegially at a compensation design that satisfies all parties. This enables everyone to focus on carrying out the institution's mission and vision.

#### The Calfee Financial Process

We are always engaged by and work exclusively for the board to assist in the development of compensation, salary, benefit and incentive programs for leaders, key staff and the entire institution. The Calfee Financial Process is:

- **Specific:** We visit your institution and meet with the executive director, president or head, the board and other committees and parties you feel will provide insight. We learn your culture and history. We ask questions—and we listen.
- Strategic: We ask about the mission and strategic planning for the institution and how the compensation philosophy and programs can better enable you to achieve your goals.
- Open and collaborative: Our services are designed to build a supportive advocacy relationship in which everyone's interests are represented. We will not enter into an adversarial relationship. The board should understand the reasoning behind the compensation program as the organization leader should understand the board's expectations.
- Methodical: The process of crafting compensation philosophies and packages gains in credibility with careful and judicious vetting of opinions and provision for input from all vested parties. We devote the hours required to develop, with the appropriate board committees, the time-line for review of compensation and benefit packages.
- Wide-ranging: We conduct a comprehensive study of current compensation and benefit packages for competitive analysis and market comparison based on current needs and projected future requirements. We help you decipher the complexities and possibilities of compensation.

#### Whom We Serve

Calfee Financial serves foundations, non-profits, civic organizations and independent schools and other institutions throughout the country.

#### For More on Our Qualifications

For more details on our more than three decades of business, non-profit and planning experience, extensive financial and benefits planning expertise, and intimate knowledge of the workings of institutions and independent schools, please call us or visit www.calfeefinancial.com.

#### Calfee Independent School Clients

Archer School for Girls Brentwood, California

Aspen Academy Greenwood Village, Colorado

Breck School

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Buckley School

Manhattan, New York

Cincinnati Country Day Cincinnati, Ohio

Cincinnati, Ohio

Convent of the Sacred Heart New York, New York

Eton School

Bellevue, Washington

Fessenden School

West Newton, Massachusetts

French American School of

Puget Sound

Mercer Island, Washington

Friends School of Wilmington Wilmington, North Carolina

Germantown Academy Fort Washington, Pennsylvania

Hawken School Gates Mills, Ohio

Hockaday School

Dallas, Texas Hopkins School

New Haven, Connecticut

Kimball Union Academy Meriden, New Hampshire

Miami Valley School

Dayton, Ohio

Miss Hall's School Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Miss Porter's School Farmington, Connecticut

Farmington, Connecticut Montgomery Academy

Montgomery, Alabama

New Canaan Country School New Canaan, Connecticut

North Shore Country Day Winnetka, Illinois

Northrop Blake Highcroft Minneapolis, Minnesota

Old Trail School Bath, Ohio

Pingry School

Basking Ridge, New Jersey

Presbyterian Day School

Memphis, Tennessee

Providence Day School Charlotte, North Carolina

Ransom Everglades School Coconut Grove, Florida

Ruffing Montessori School

Cleveland, Ohio

Saint Edward's School Vero Beach, Florida

Sayre School

Lexington, Kentucky

St Luke's School

New Canaan, Connecticut
The Elisabeth Morrow School

Englewood, New Jersey

The King School Stamford, Connecticut

The Masters School Dobbs Ferry, New York

The Peck School

Morristown, New Jersey

The Wardlaw-Hartridge School

Edison, New Jersey The Webb School

Claremont, California

Waynflete School Portland, Maine

York School

Monterey, California

#### Calfee Nonprofit Organization Clients

Bonnie Brae

Liberty Corner, New Jersey
Fieldstone Farms Therapeutic

Riding Center

Chagrin Falls, Ohio

Sarasota Military Academy

Sarasota, Florida

St. Luke's Foundation Cleveland, Ohio The Gathering Place Northeast Ohio

Western Reserve Land

Conservancy

Hunting Valley, Ohio

Nonprofit charitable foundation

Jackson Hole, Wyoming

And many more...

#### Every Institution is Unique, Requiring Individualized Solutions

No two institutions, leaders or circumstances are exactly the same. Your compensation and benefits philosophy should be tailored accordingly.

You need more than a well-crafted compensation agreement—you need a process, a framework, which fosters accord and unreservedly embraces your distinctive culture and vision. A process that: is transparent, collaborative, strategic, practical and creative; and fully embraces the unique culture, history, values, needs and mission of your institution apart from national averages, "competitive" research, grids, matrices and surveys.

Bring that framework to your institution with Calfee Financial. We provide the open and individualized methodology and process that enables your institution to build strategic and lasting compensation philosophies and programs.



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