



Presbyterian Chair of Divinity

Associate or Full Professor
(9-month, Tenure Track)

Samford University's Beeson Divinity School invites individuals interested in serving in a Christian university environment to apply for the position of Presbyterian Chair of Divinity, at the rank of Associate or Full Professor. This is a tenure-track, full-time faculty, 9-month appointment, to begin in August 2027.

The Presbyterian Chair of Divinity is one of five chairs endowed by Ralph Waldo Beeson in his initial gift to establish a graduate theological school at Samford University. The holder of the chair works collaboratively to prepare God-called persons to serve as ministers in the church of Jesus Christ – teaching courses in the Divinity curricula, giving support and guidance to students preparing for ministry leadership, and cultivating relationships with ministers, churches, and presbyteries within various Presbyterian denominations.

The successful candidate will be a committed evangelical Christian, active in a local Presbyterian church, and ordained as an elder in the Presbyterian tradition. Candidates must be compatible with the school's interdenominational ethos and its theological commitments (as evidenced by an appropriate Presbyterian response to the *Baptist Faith and Message* [1963]).

Qualified candidates will hold a Ph.D. in a theological discipline. They must be a recognized scholar in their field, with a demonstrated record of outstanding teaching and proven research agenda and publications. Academic rank and salary are dependent upon qualifications, previous academic teaching experiences, and scholarship accomplishments. To qualify for full professor rank, a candidate must have served on the faculty of an accredited school at the rank of associate or full professor for a minimum of five years.

Beeson Divinity School (beesondivinity.com) was established in 1988 through the generosity of Ralph Waldo Beeson. The mission of the school is to prepare God-called persons to serve as ministers in the church of Jesus Christ by providing quality theological education in a community that worships the Triune God and cultivates authentic Christian spirituality. Beeson offers the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Theological Studies, Master of Arts in Christian Counseling, Master of Theology, and Doctor of Philosophy in Theology for the Church. All degrees are accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the U.S. and Canada (COA/ATS). Beeson is one of ten schools that comprise Samford University.

Located in the Homewood suburb of Birmingham, Alabama, Samford (samford.edu) is a leading Christian university offering undergraduate programs grounded in the liberal arts with an array of nationally recognized graduate and professional schools. Founded in 1841, Samford enrolls 6,324 students from 44 states, Puerto Rico and 16 countries in its 10 academic schools with 450 full-time faculty. Samford is ranked #3 in the nation for career preparation and #8 in the nation for student learning opportunities as listed in *The Wall Street Journal* (2026). The University is dedicated to the promotion of rigorous academic inquiry in a Christian setting. The University seeks and prefers employee applicants of the Christian faith and offers competitive salaries with a generous benefits package.

The application deadline is July 31, 2026. Please submit (combined into one PDF) a cover letter,

application for faculty position, faculty applicant Christian mission statement, and curriculum vitae to: FACAPP@samford.edu with the subject line denoting: “Presbyterian Chair Search.” Additionally, please have three letters of recommendation submitted directly from the recommender to Dr. Douglas Sweeney (dsweeney@samford.edu), with the subject line denoting: “LAST NAME, FIRST NAME – Presbyterian Chair Search.”

Applicants must be authorized to work in the United States, as Samford will not sponsor any employment visas for this position. The successful candidate must pass a background check.

The “Application for Faculty Position” can be found at:

https://www.samford.edu/departments/files/Human_Resource/application-for-faculty-employment.pdf

The “Faculty Applicant Christian Mission Statement” can be found at:

<https://www.samford.edu/departments/files/academic-affairs/Faculty-Applicant-Christian-Mission-Statement.docx>

Questions may be addressed to the chair of the search committee, Dr. Douglas Sweeney, at dsweeney@samford.edu or (205) 726-2632.

In accordance with applicable federal and state laws, such as Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act and ADA Amendments, the University does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, religion, or any other protected status under federal, state or local law applicable to the University, in its education policies, programs, and activities, in its admissions policies, in employment policies and practices, and all other areas of the University. As a faith-based institution, the University is exempted from certain laws and regulations concerning discrimination.