



**Candace Shaffer**  
Associate Vice President,  
Benefits & Payroll  
[Purdue University](#)

Candace Shaffer's commitment to improving the well-being of others is at the core of her professional successes, as well as her personal motivation. In 2014, she began her career in benefits at Purdue University. From 2017 to 2023, she served as senior director of benefits, leading the university's benefit team and was responsible for the overall strategic and financial approach to Purdue University's and Purdue University Global's benefit packages.

Today, in her role as Associate Vice President (AVP), Benefits & Payroll, she provides visionary, strategic leadership to plan, develop, maintain and enhance the university's comprehensive benefits package and payroll processes. Advancing the University's time, pay and benefit strategy, including developing, implementing and monitoring quality and compliance standards and customer service expectations while meeting financial expectations and overseeing continuous improvement initiatives also fall to her as AVP.

As a result of Shaffer's dedication to overall health and well-being, Purdue was named the 2023 Healthiest Employer in Indiana, Rank 1 for employers with 5k+ employees. Additionally, she received the following awards: 2023 Healthcare Innovation Award (Employers' Forum of Indiana) and the 2023 Hoosier Health and Well-Being Workplace Champion (Wellness Council of Indiana).

Candace earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in child development and family studies from Purdue University. Awarded with Employee Benefits News 'Benefits Leadership in Healthcare' in 2018, Candace's focus on overall employee wellness – behavioral, financial, physical, social and work-life – continues to bring new opportunities to the table, not only for the employee population but also the university.