

## Leave

Administrative Professional employees are eligible for paid leave as outlined in this section. Relevant law or other University policy may supersede the following leave guidelines. Consult Human Resource Services at 509-335-4521 for current applicable rules, regulations, and procedures. A link to the leave policy can be found at [60.56](#)

All Administrative Professional employees are eligible to receive leave. Administrative Professional appointments must be for a minimum of .50 FTE (Full-Time Equivalent) and must be for more than a 6-month appointment term. (i.e. 6-mos plus 1-day).

**EXCEPTION:** Retire/Rehires cannot be appointed for more than a 40% appointment in a 12-month term and are not eligible to receive leave.

Leave is reported monthly on the following:

- Faculty, Administrative Professional Leave Report for positions exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act (not eligible for overtime); or
- Time Report for Overtime-Eligible Employees for positions covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Civil Service employees who accept Administrative Professional positions carry forward all accumulated sick and annual leave if there is no break in service. The releasing department at the time of transfer will pay any accrued compensatory time earned in the Civil Service position.

Employees from other state agencies who join WSU without a break in service transfer their annual and sick leave balances.

## Annual Leave

### *Accrual*

Full-time Administrative Professional employees earn 14.67 hours of annual leave for each month of completed service. Unused leave is cumulative to a maximum of 352 hours.

Annual leave accrues on a pro-rata basis

- For less than 100 percent appointments
- For partial months worked

Employees on less than 12-month appointments earn annual leave for each month of their scheduled work year. Leave is accrued while an employee is on paid leave. Leave is not accrued while an employee is on unpaid leave. Leave is prorated for partial months of unpaid leave.

### *Use*

Leave is scheduled with the approval of the unit administrator. Annual leave may not be taken before it is earned; annual leave is not earned until the first day of the following month. **EXCEPTION:** The annual leave hours earned during the final month of the appointment may be used in the final month.

Employees on temporary appointments must use annual leave prior to the expiration of their appointment to avoid loss of earned leave.

Administrative Professional employees are free during the time outside the service period or during annual leave to seek other employment, perform consulting work, or take advantage of educational opportunities. Employment or consulting work must be consistent with University policy and applicable laws.

### ***Payment***

Annual leave is paid at the time of separation from state service. Human Resource Services authorizes payment based on the total accrued leave balance.

Accumulated annual leave for employees on temporary appointments must be used prior to the termination date, unless the employee obtains a written exception from the Appointing Authority. These restrictions are noted on the employee's Personnel Action Form.

Payment is calculated with the following formula:

- Hours of unused leave x monthly salary x .0063

### **Sick Leave**

#### ***Accrual***

Full-time Administrative Professional employees earn eight (8) hours of sick leave for each month of completed service.

Sick leave accrues on a pro rata basis:

- For less than 100 percent appointments
- For partial months worked

Employees on less than 12-month appointments earn sick leave for each month of their scheduled work year. Leave is accrued while an employee is on paid leave. Leave is not accrued while an employee is on unpaid leave. Leave is prorated for partial months of unpaid leave.

#### ***Use***

Sick leave may not be taken before it is earned; sick leave is not earned until the first day of the following month. It may be used in case of illness or disability of the Administrative Professional employee or his or her immediate family member. Sick leave may be used for condolence or bereavement. (See emergency leave for additional information.)

### ***Payment***

Administrative Professional employees may participate in the sick leave Attendance Incentive Program. A link to the policy can be found at [60.41](#)

- In January of each year, employees may elect to receive monetary compensation for unused sick leave hours accrued in the previous year. The sick leave balance cannot be reduced to less than 480 hours.
- Upon retirement or death the employee or beneficiary shall be compensated 25% of all unused sick leave. For retirement the Voluntary Employee Beneficiary Association (VEBA) Medical Expense Plan may apply.

Payment is based on two figures: (1) 25 percent of unused sick leave and (2) salary at the time of payment. Payment is calculated with the following formula:

$$25 \text{ percent} \times \text{hours of unused sick leave} \times$$

monthly salary x .005747

***VEBA Medical Expense Plan ("VEBA MEP")*** (rev. 12-01-08)

At retirement, an eligible employee may either receive benefits from the Voluntary Employee's Benefit Association Medical Expense Plan (VEBA MEP) or receive payment for accrued sick leave. A link to the policy can be found at [BPPM 55.49](#)

***Re-employed from Former State Service***

Sick Leave will be restored to former state employees who are re-employed to the AP Service within three (3) years of their separation date. Sick leave will not be restored if the employee retired and the accrued sick leave was cashed out to a VEBA Trust account.

***Leave for Work-Related Injury or Illness***

Employees who suffer a work-related injury or illness that is compensable under the state workers' compensation law may select time loss compensation exclusively or a combination of time loss compensation and accrued paid leave. Employees using sick leave during a period in which they receive workers' compensation must reimburse WSU for the amount of their time loss payment for the period. Sick leave will be restored in a proportionate amount. If the employee receives pay for vacation leave or holidays and also receives workers' compensation for time loss, he or she is entitled to both payments without any deduction for the industrial insurance payment. For more information, call Benefits Services at 509-335-4521, or refer to the web site [Worker Comp](#)

***Military Leave*** (rev. 12-01-08)

WSU grants employees 21 days of leave with pay for active training duty with any of the armed forces of the United States, upon receipt of military orders. Military orders are not required for those employees called to active duty.

During a period of military conflict, an employee whose spouse is a member of the military who has been called to active duty or deployed is entitled to 15 days of leave per deployment. During this period of leave, they may use their own leave accruals or request unpaid leave.

***Civil Leave***

Administrative Professional employees are entitled to leave for jury duty, as subpoenaed trial witnesses, and/or for other subpoenaed civil duty.

***Leave for Voting***

In accordance with [RCW 49.28.120](#), supervisors are to arrange employees' working hours on the day of a primary, general or special election to allow employees reasonable time to vote. (Up to two hours may be allowed.)

The supervisor may not deny the use of compensatory time or annual leave for up to two hours on an election day if:

- The employee's work schedule does not include two consecutive free hours during the time the polls are open, and
- The employee was not advised of his/her work schedule in time to obtain an absentee ballot.

### ***Leave for Testimony at Trials and Hearings***

University employees, as all citizens, have a duty to provide accurate information to adjudicatory bodies. When Administrative Professional employees are subpoenaed because of facts gained within the course of University duties, arrangements for leave and for providing expertise to litigants will be reviewed by the appointing authority or designee in consultation with the WSU Division of the Office of the Attorney General to ensure the University's interests are protected.

### ***Expert Testimony***

Expert testimony by Administrative Professional employees will be in accordance with University policy and procedure.

### ***Emergency Leave***

Emergency leave applies only to cases of death of a family/household member or a comparable emergency. "Comparable emergency" is defined as severe or life threatening illness or injury.

For purposes of emergency leave, family members include spouse, children, parents, siblings, spouse's parents, spouse's children, grandparents, grandchildren, stepparents, stepchildren, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepbrother, stepsister, and dependents living in the employee's home regardless of the family relationship to the employee. Household members/partners are defined as persons who reside in the same home who have reciprocal duties to and do provide financial and/or emotional support for one another.

Such leave, with pay, may be granted to the Administrative Professional employee by the dean or other principal administrative officer in charge, provided the regular duties of the person concerned are assumed by other staff members without additional expense to the University. Up to five days leave shall be granted for each emergency without charge to sick leave or annual leave balances. Under exceptional circumstances, the leave may be extended to 10 days with authorization of the employee's administrative officer and the Director of Human Resource Services.

### ***Professional Leave***

Administrative Professional employees are eligible for WSU's Professional Leave Program. Professional leave provides an opportunity for study, research, and creative activities for the enhancement of the institution's instructional and research programs. Each fall, the Office of the Provost announces program guidelines and application procedures.

### ***Shared Leave***

The shared leave program allows state employees to donate leave to a state employee who is suffering from, or has a family/household member suffering from an extraordinary or severe

illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that is likely to cause the employee to take leave without pay or terminate employment. Also available if called to Military service. To receive shared leave the employee is required to meet the following conditions:

- Have a 50 percent or greater appointment;
- Exhaust all other leave balances;
- Submit an Application to Receive Shared Leave.

The following criteria apply to the donation of shared leave:

- A minimum of one hour of annual or sick leave;
- All or part of a personal holiday;
- Annual leave balance may not fall below 80 hours at the time the donation is processed;
- Sick leave donation may not fall below 176 hours at the time the donation is processed

Complete instructions are outlined in [BPPM](#) or contact Human Resource Services at 509-335-4521.

### ***Leave of Absence without Pay***

The following guidelines apply to extended leave of absence without pay (LWOP). An employee granted leave must state in writing an intention to return to the service of the University for at least one year after the leave or to retire, if eligible, at the end of the leave:

- May be granted for up to 12 months by the appointing authority.
- May be extended for up to an additional 12 months upon the approval of the appointing authority and the director of Human Resource Services.
- Requests for and actions relating to leave of absence without pay are submitted in writing in advance of the leave.
- If LWOP is for entire calendar month, annual and sick leave are not earned and cannot be taken while on leave of absence without pay.
- Annual and sick leave are pro-rated based on hours in paid status during months of partial LWOP.
- Employees on parental or disability leave without pay may use a minimum of eight (8) hours per month of accrued leave (annual or sick) for up to four months to maintain insurance benefits. Employees are encouraged to contact Human Resource Services to determine if eight (8) hours will be enough to cover their portion of the insurance premiums. Contact HRS at 509-335-4521.
- The granting of such leave is discretionary with the appointing authority.

### ***Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)***

The Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) allows up to 12 weeks of paid or unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for certain family and medical reasons for each 12-month period. An eligible employee is an employee who has worked for the state for at least 12-months and for at least one thousand two hundred fifty (1,250) hours during the previous 12-month period. The employee may use annual leave, sick leave, leave without pay, or any combination thereof.

Family Medical Leave may be requested for the following:

- The birth or adoption of a child or the foster care placement of a child;
- The care of an employee's spouse, child, or parent, if that person has a serious health condition;
- A serious health condition of the employee that renders the employee unable to perform regularly assigned job functions.

The combined Family Medical Leave for a husband and wife (both employed by WSU) cannot exceed 12 weeks for each birth, adoption, or foster care placement. Health benefits continue for the 12-week Family Medical Leave period. The employee is responsible for his or her share of premium payments. Employees are encouraged to contact HRS at 509-335-4521 for information on how to use their leave to cover their portion of the premiums, or to set-up a payment plan to pay for their portion of the premiums.

The employee is responsible for the following:

- Completing a Request for Family Medical Leave form;
- Submitting a health care provider certification within 15 days of the event;
- Providing a fitness-for-duty release prior to returning to work in the case of an employee's serious health condition;
- Maintaining contact with his or her supervisor during the leave period.

Family Medical Leave is also available as Service Member leave, which provides up to 26 weeks of leave as an eligible family member [next of kin](#) of a member of the armed forces, to care for a [covered service member](#) who, as a result of a serious illness or injury incurred in the line of duty is,

- Undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy;
- Otherwise in [outpatient status](#); or,
- Otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a [serious injury or illness](#).

For additional information contact Human Resource Services at 509-335-4521.

### ***Parental Leave***

Administrative Professional employees, who do not qualify to take their leave under the Family Medical Leave Act, may be granted Parental Leave.

### ***Domestic Violence Leave*** (rev. 12-01-08)

Employees who are victims of, or have a family member who is a victim of domestic violence, they can take reasonable leave from work to seek assistance, obtain medical treatment, mental health, counseling, legal assistance, confidential secure shelter, or to participate in a safety plan. Employees may use annual leave, sick leave, leave without pay, or any combination thereof. For additional information contact Human Resource Services at 509-335-4521.

### ***Holidays***

There are 11 holidays, generally 10 scheduled holidays and one personal holiday. Employees on less than 12-month appointments are eligible for holidays scheduled within their

appointment term. An AP employee must be in pay status the work-day prior to the holiday in order to receive pay for the holiday.

An employee's workplace location determines the holiday schedule. The WSU holidays are posted at <http://www.hrs.wsu.edu/holidaysched>

### ***Personal Holiday***

Employees are eligible for a one-day personal holiday accrued on a fiscal year basis (an employee's workplace location may determine the personal holiday schedule) to be used:

- In a one-day block; or
- As a partial-day if donated for shared leave; or
- As a partial-day if used for emergency leave.

### ***Change in Appointment Status***

An appointing authority may reduce or increase the FTE (full-time equivalent) percentage or change the appointment term for an AP appointment.

Requirements:

- The employee will be given at least a 30-day written notification if a department is reducing or increasing the FTE (full-time equivalent) percentage or changing the Appointment Term.
- The appointment must be for a minimum of 0.50 FTE and for 6-month + 1 day appointment term.
  - Administrative Professional employees who previously held permanent status in a WSU Civil Service staff position may have a right of reversion in accordance with the state civil service laws.

Administrative Professional personnel may at the discretion of their appointing authority, request in writing a reduction/increase in FTE or appointment term.

### ***Change in Title***

An appointing authority may change the official title of an occupied position as long as there is no negative impact to the employee's salary and/or no significant changes to the essential functions of the position a 30-day written notification is required. For additional information contact Human Resource Services at 509-335-4521.