

**POLICY MANUAL**

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY FARGO, N.D.

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SECTION 143: SICK/DEPENDENT LEAVE**SOURCE: SBHE Human Resource Policy Manual**

1. Sick leave is a benefit granted by the University to eligible employees and is not a benefit considered to be earned by the employee such as annual leave. It is an insurance benefit allowing employees to build a reserve of days they can use for their extended illnesses. *Abuse of this benefit may be grounds for disciplinary action or termination.* Employees are responsible for informing their supervisors prior to the start of their work schedule of their sickness.
 - 1.1 The employing department may require satisfactory medical verification as deemed necessary by the department head prior to the payment of sick leave.
 - 1.2 The employee is responsible for furnishing their supervisor or department head with a completed "Notification of Employee Leave" card upon returning to work.
2. Sick leave is granted on the basis of continuous service from date of employment for benefited staff employees, *and benefited 12-month academic staff and other non-banded staff.*
3. Sick leave for full-time eligible employees accrues based on rate per hour at a rate equivalent to 12 days per year. Sick leave for eligible part-time employees working 20 hours or more per week is granted on a prorated basis. Sick leave accumulation is unlimited.
4. Sick leave may be granted to employees who become ill while on vacation provided satisfactory medical proof of such illness is submitted.
5. When a holiday occurs during a paid sick leave, the holiday is not considered a day of sick leave.
6. Upon termination, employees with ten years of continuous state service will receive a payment equivalent to 10% of the dollar value of their accrued sick leave. The amount is computed on the basis of the employee's salary at the time of termination and shall be in the form of a lump-sum payment.
7. At the discretion of the department head and the concurrence of the Director of Human Resources/Payroll, an employee may be granted sick leave in advance of the accumulation thereof. Any sick leave taken in advance of accumulation shall be deducted from the employee's last paycheck.
8. *Unless an approved leave of absence has been granted, an employee who is off the payroll for one year shall lose unused sick leave.*

9. Accrued sick leave is transferable from any state agency to the employing institution if employment with the institution occurs within one calendar year of separation of service with the state agency. In the event of a Reduction in Force, sick leave is transferable if reemployment occurs within two calendar years.
10. Sick leave may be used by the employee when:
 - 10.1 The employee is ill or injured and is unable to work.
 - 10.2 The employee has an appointment for the diagnosis or treatment of a medically related condition.
 - 10.3 The employee wishes to attend to the needs of an eligible family member who is ill or to assist them in obtaining other services related to their health or well-being. Eligible family members include the employee's spouse, parent (natural, adoptive, foster, and step-parent); child (natural, adoptive, foster, and step-child); or any other family member who is financially or legally dependent upon the employee or who resides with the employee for the purpose of the employee providing care to the family member.
 - 10.4 Sick leave used for the purposes described in 10.3 shall not exceed forty (40) hours per calendar year. Once the forty (40) hours have been exhausted, the employee must then use annual leave for situations outlined in 10.3.
11. *The accrual of sick leave shall be prorated for the pay period in which employment begins or ends.*
12. *Sick leave is not accrued during developmental leaves or leaves of absence without pay.*
13. *Accumulated sick leave may be used for any period(s) of actual disability caused or contributed to by pregnancy. Beyond the period of disability, an employee may request use of annual leave, family leave, and/or leave without pay to provide for an extended post-delivery period away from work.*
14. *"Notification of Employee Leave" cards are processed on an on-going basis. Each department is responsible for verifying the Departmental Leave Report. Late leave cards and errors must be submitted to the Office of Human Resources/Payroll for entry and/or corrections.*

HISTORY: July 1990; Amended April 1992; July 1997, April 2002, January 2004; November 2005; January 2007



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