

North Dakota State University

Policy Manual

SECTION 130

ANNUAL LEAVE

SOURCE: NDUS Human Resources Policy Manual, Section 6
NDSU President

1. Annual leave with pay is earned by eligible employees for the purpose of freeing them from their regular duties to spend time in rest and recreation or to attend to personal matters. Upon approval, annual leave may only be used in place of regularly scheduled work hours and shall not cause overtime. Such leave should be programmed to ensure that leave is taken rather than carried forward from year to year.
2. University operations govern annual leave periods. Consideration is given first to the convenience of the administration, departmental needs, then the employee's departmental seniority and finally to the employee's preference. Annual leave is computed on the basis of the employee's hours/week, and months/year.
 - 2.1 The employee must obtain authorization from his/her department head before taking annual leave. The form of this authorization is to be determined by the respective department head.
 - 2.2 The employee is responsible to report their leave in absence management, and their supervisor, or assigned proxy, shall approve the leave within two business days after the end of the pay period in which the leave was taken.
3. Annual leave with pay for full-time benefited, broadbanded staff employees is earned on the basis of continuous service from date of employment as follows:

First through third year - the equivalent of 12 days per year
Fourth through seventh year - the equivalent of 15 days per year
Eighth through twelfth year - the equivalent of 18 days per year
Thirteenth through eighteenth year - the equivalent of 21 days per year
Over eighteen years - the equivalent of 24 days per year

Annual leave for full-time, non-banded employees in the following job categories is earned on the same basis as for staff employees: graduate research fellows (2230), graduate teaching fellows (2235), post doc research fellows (2240), research scientists (2420), extension program assistants (2530), and international exchange scientists (2810).

Graduate teaching, research or service assistants and experiment station project assistants do not earn annual leave.

- 3.1 Years of service shall be computed from the employment anniversary dates.
- 3.2 Annual leave for part-time staff employees and the non-banded employees identified above in 3 is earned on a prorated basis.

4. Presidents, executive deans, provosts, vice presidents, positions excluded from the broadbanding system, and other positions approved by the President or chancellor at the time of hire are entitled to accrue a minimum of twelve working days and a maximum of 24 working days of annual leave each year to be taken at the convenience of the administration. Accrual rates for these employees are determined by the institution president. For any of these employees who are less than full-time, the annual leave will be prorated.

Each department may negotiate annual leave accrual on a case-by case basis during the recruitment, with prior Presidential approval. Current benefitted employees are not eligible to negotiate their leave accrual after starting employment.

5. Annual leave for 12-month faculty and other non-banded job categories not identified in #3 above is earned at the rate of 16 hours per month, 24 days per year. Annual leave will be prorated for those who are less than full-time. For non-banded employees on 9, 10, or 11, month appointments, see Section 320.
6. All eligible employees may accumulate annual leave hours. Full-time employees may accumulate up to 30 working days or 240 hours which shall be carried forward on January 1st of each year. Part-time employees may accumulate up to the equivalent number of days or hours on a prorated basis. Any accumulation in excess of 30 days or 240 hours for full-time (or the equivalent on a prorated basis for part-time employees) as of December 31st of each year shall be cancelled. The FTE status of the employee as of December 31st of each year will determine the amount of carryover allowed under this policy.
7. All employees eligible to accumulate annual leave must take at least forty hours (or the equivalent on a prorated basis for part-time employees) of annual leave each year, except for the year during which they are hired.
8. When a holiday occurs during annual leave, the holiday is not considered a day of annual leave time.
9. At the discretion of the department head/chair and the concurrence of the Director of Human Resources, or designee, an employee may be granted annual leave in advance of the accumulation thereof up to a maximum of 40 hours. In rare cases, such as leave due to a workers' compensation claim or shared leave, the Human Resources office may approve leave which exceeds the 40-hour advance. Annual leave taken in advance of accumulation will be deducted from the employee's last paycheck. An agreement authorizing the deduction should be signed by the employee, submitted to and approved by the Office of Human Resources prior to the employee obtaining a negative accrual balance.
10. Benefitted employees terminating employment must be paid for earned unused annual leave subject to all approved payroll matched reductions/deductions. "Unused annual leave" shall include any leave carried over from the previous year and all accrued leave up to the date of termination. Proper termination notice must be given and any unearned annual leave taken shall be deducted from the employee's last paycheck.
 - 10.1 Annual leave earned by an employee on a 12-month appointment may not be carried forward by the employee to be used or paid for during the term of a subsequent appointment for less than 12 months and must be paid out.
11. In case of death, payment of all earned, unused annual leave shall be paid according to Section 34-01-12 of the North Dakota Century Code. (See Section 183.)

12. Accrued annual leave for employees previously employed with other North Dakota institutions or agencies may be transferred to institutions under the State Board of Higher Education according to agreements between the employee and the institution. If re-employment occurs within one calendar year, the re-employing institution shall credit the employee with prior years of service from any state agency in computing annual leave accrual rate.
13. When employment begins or ends during a pay period, the accrual of annual leave shall be prorated for the pay period when the employee is hired or terminated and does not work a full pay period.
14. Annual leave is not accrued during developmental leaves or leaves of absence without pay.
15. Leave requests are processed on an on-going basis. The approving supervisor is responsible for verifying leave balances before approving. Corrections to leave will be handled by the Office of Payroll Services.
16. Employees may exercise FMLA rights to preserve up to 40 hours of their available annual leave balance while the remainder paid leave runs concurrent with the FMLA leave entitlement period. After FMLA eligibility is exhausted then FMLA protections shall not apply to the preserved annual leave balance.

HISTORY:

New	July 1990
Amended	April 1996
Amended	March 1998
Amended	October 1999
Amended	April 2002
Amended	October 2003
Amended	March 2006
Housekeeping	April 2010
Housekeeping	May 15, 2012
Housekeeping	April 11, 2013
Housekeeping	July 12, 2013
Amended	March 26, 2014
Amended	November 7, 2014
Amended	June 22, 2015
Housekeeping	March 31, 2017
Housekeeping	August 31, 2018
Amended	December 14, 2020
Amended	October 24, 2023