

# Salt Lake County Human Resources Policy 4-200: Leave Practices

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## **Purpose**

This policy explains the circumstances under which an eligible employee may use the various types of paid and unpaid leave provided by Salt Lake County.

## **I. Policy**

Salt Lake County provides various types of paid and unpaid leave for an employee's absence from work for personal and professional reasons. Documentation supporting a request may be required at any time (i.e. military orders; funeral program for funeral leave). Leave under the [Family and Medical Leave Act \(FMLA\)](#), [Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended \(ADAA\)](#), Worker's Compensation and Long Term Disability are covered under separate policies.

## **II. Procedures**

### **A. Administrative Leave**

1. Administrative leave may be paid or unpaid.
2. An employee may be placed on administrative leave for an investigation or other organizational needs.
  - a. An employee will be placed on administrative leave for the minimum time necessary to complete the investigation or satisfy organizational needs.
3. An employee may receive a bonus award in the form of paid administrative leave.
  - a. The total amount of all bonus awards of paid administrative leave may not exceed five working days in aggregate over a calendar year.
  - b. A bonus award in the form of paid administrative leave must be used within a year of the date granted.
4. A department director or elected official may grant an award of up to eighty (80) hours of paid administrative leave as a recruitment incentive to a new county employee or a current county employee who does not accrue leave in the former position. The recruitment incentive must be used within a year of the start date.

### **B. Compensatory time will be granted in accordance with [HR Policy 5-300, Payroll](#).**

### **C. Funeral Leave**

1. Employees in the following employment statuses are eligible for a paid funeral leave: 02 regular, 03 probationary, 04 provisional, 08 permanent part-time with benefits and 12 time limited appointed.
  - a. At the discretion of the administrator, funeral leave may be granted to make funeral arrangements, settle family affairs, attend the funeral or memorial service and for bereavement.
2. The amount of funeral leave granted is at the discretion of the administrator based upon the employee's individual circumstances and the needs of the agency. The maximum time off for funeral leave is as follows:
  - a. Up to 40 work hours for immediate family which includes spouse, adult designee, child, ward, dependent child of an adult designee, parent, legal guardian, brother, sister, grandparent, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law and step-relatives of the same order.
  - b. Up to 24 work hours that may be extended to 40 work hours for other family members who include uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law and daughter-in-law.



## Salt Lake County Human Resources Policy 4-200: Leave Practices

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7. A holiday that falls on a Sunday will be observed on the following Monday. A holiday that falls on a Saturday will be observed on the preceding Friday.
    - a. The Juneteenth Holiday will be observed as follows:
      - i. If June 19 falls on any day Tuesday-Friday, it will be observed the preceding Monday.
      - ii. If June 19 falls on Saturday or Sunday, it will be observed the following Monday.
  8. Employees required to work on holidays are paid in accordance with [HR Policy 5-100 Pay Practices](#).
  9. As holidays occur, the eligible employee will receive either a cash payment based on the FTE held or leave added to their holiday bank based on the FTE held. An employee may not use other paid leave in order to bank a holiday.
  10. When employees record holiday on their timecard, the hours will be deducted from the holiday bank.
  11. Holiday leave will be audited annually at the conclusion of each employee's last full work cycle in July. Holiday leave exceeding 24 hours will be forfeited on August 1 of each year.
  12. Hours remaining in the holiday bank will be cashed out upon separation.
- F. Holiday Leave – Sheriff's Office Sworn Employees
1. Employees in the following employment statuses are eligible for 96 hours of holiday leave per calendar year: 02 regular and 03 probationary. The 96 hours of holiday leave is in lieu of the holidays listed in 4-200-II-D-6.
  2. The 96 hours of holiday leave will be divided equally between the 12 calendar months of the year. Employees are eligible to use eight hours of holiday leave at the beginning of each month.
  3. Employees who take 80 hours or more of leave without pay (LWOP) in one month will not be awarded holiday leave for the following month.
  4. Holiday hours will be prorated based on the number of months worked by an employee entering the Peace Officer's Merit Commission (POMC) system during the calendar year.
  5. Employees entering the POMC system from the Career Service system will be awarded unused hours in the former position for the calendar year.
  6. Employees who work on holidays will be paid at straight time unless the requirements for overtime are met.
  7. Supervisors should allow for the scheduling of eight holiday hours off per month. Due to the difficulty in maintaining shift schedules for 24 hour coverage, holiday leave may be scheduled by the Sheriff's Office Divisions.
  8. Holiday leave will be audited annually at the conclusion of each employee's last full work cycle in July. Holiday leave exceeding 24 hours will be forfeited on August 1 of each year.
- G. Jury and Witness Leave
1. Employees in the following employment statuses are eligible for a paid leave of absence for jury or witness duty in response to a subpoena or directive by the Federal Government, State of Utah or its political subdivisions: 02 regular, 03 probationary, 04 provisional, 08 permanent part-time, 09 part-time and 12 time limited appointed.
    - a. Sheriff's Office sworn employees in employment status 02 regular.
  2. Jury duty is an approved absence.
    - a. An employee will be granted paid time off for jury duty.
    - b. Scheduled work time may be spent traveling to and from jury duty.
    - c. An employee may keep income received from jury duty.
  3. Witness duty may be an approved absence if related to employment.
    - a. Traveling to and from employment-related witness duty.
    - b. An employee may keep income received from witness duty.

## Salt Lake County Human Resources Policy 4-200: Leave Practices

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4. An employee subpoenaed for private litigation or by a party other than the Federal Government, State of Utah or its political subdivisions, to testify as an individual and not in a work-related official capacity, may request to use vacation or leave without pay.
- H. Leave Without Pay (Excluding Long Term Disability Applicants, Workers Compensation, Military Leave and Family and Medical Leave (FMLA))
1. Employees in the following employment statuses may submit a written request for an unpaid leave of absence not to exceed 180 consecutive days in a 12 month period to the employee's supervisor: 02 regular, 08 permanent part-time, 09 part-time, and 12 timelimited appointed.
  2. The supervisor will submit a recommendation for approval of a request for leave without pay of more than 2 calendar days to their department director or elected official.
  3. An employee on leave without pay for more than a cumulative 30 calendar days does not accumulate retirement benefits and contributions to the employee's state Retirement Fund will not be made during the period of leave.
  4. An employee on leave without pay does not accrue sick or vacation leave.
  5. Insurance benefits for leave without pay of 30 or more consecutive days will be handled in accordance with [HR Policy 4-300 Insurance and Retirement Programs](#) and [HR Policy 4-900 Retirement Policy](#).
  6. An employee returning from leave without pay status will be reinstated in accordance with [HR Policy 2-700 Employment Practices](#).
- I. Military Leave
1. Employees in the following employment statuses are eligible for a paid leave of absence for military duty: 02 regular, 03 probationary, 04 provisional, 08 permanent part-time and 12 time limited appointed.
  2. The employee may be granted up to a maximum of 15 working days (120 hours) per calendar year.
  3. If additional time off is required, the employee may use vacation or leave without pay.
  4. A copy of the military orders supporting the leave request will be submitted to the employee's Administrator before beginning leave. The agency will forward a copy of the military orders to the Human Resources Division for placement in the employee's official personnel file.
  5. Employees activated for military duty under the [Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act \(USERRA\)](#) may be absent from employment for the period required by the official orders and as prescribed in the Act.
  6. An employee returning from active duty will be reinstated in accordance with [Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act \(USERRA\)](#) and [HR Policy 4-300 Insurance and Retirement Programs](#) and [HR Policy 4-900 Retirement Policy](#).
- J. Sick Leave
1. Employees in employment statuses 02 regular, 03 probationary, 04 provisional, 08 permanent part-time and 12 time limited appointed will accumulate sick leave according to the following formula:
    - a.  $\text{Accrual} = \text{regular hours worked} \times (\text{times}) .04615$
    - b. A Multiple Jobs Employee accrues sick leave based upon the hours worked in the Primary Position and not the hours worked in a Subordinate Position or the hours worked for a Subordinate Agency.
  2. There is no limit on the amount of sick leave that may be accrued and carried forward to succeeding years.
  3. Sick leave may be used for an employee's absence from work due to illness, injury, medical appointments and to care for an ill or injured immediate family member.
  4. Sick leave may be used after the employee has completed one month of employment.

# Salt Lake County Human Resources Policy 4-200: Leave Practices

5. Sick leave may be used in increments of one quarter hour or more.
  6. Employees are not allowed to use sick leave for any period of time beyond or in advance of time already accrued.
  7. Holidays occurring while an employee is on sick leave are not deducted from accrued leave.
  8. Employees will report an intended absence to their supervisor prior to the beginning of their scheduled workday or following normal agency call-in procedures.
  9. Administrators are responsible for approving or denying sick leave requests and may require medical clarification of illness. Employees using five or more consecutive days of sick leave will be required to provide a note from a health care provider documenting the medical need for the absence.
  10. Employees who use little or no accrued sick leave during the calendar year will automatically have a portion of the unused sick leave converted to vacation in January of each year according to the following formula:
    - a.  $\text{Accrued Credit} - (\text{minus}) \text{Used Credit} - (\text{minus}) 64 \text{ Hours} = \text{Converted Credit}$ 
      - i. Employees may waive conversion of sick leave by submitting a written request to the Human Resources Division no later than December 15 of each year.
  11. Sick leave is not accrued when an employee is on leave without pay.
  12. When an employee transfers from one Agency to another, accrued sick leave will be transferred to the new Agency.
  13. Employees terminating County employment, for reasons other than retirement, will not be compensated for unused sick leave accumulated prior to the termination date.
  14. An employee may not donate sick leave to another employee.
  15. Agencies may not require a minimum balance of accrued sick leave.
- K. Vacation and Personal Preference Day
1. Employees in statuses 02 regular, 03 probationary, 04 provisional, 08 permanent part-time and 12 time limited appointed will accrue vacation according to the following schedule:

YEARS OF SERVICE	ACCRUAL
0 to 2+	Full-time: 12 days (96 hours) Part-time: Hours paid x .046154
3 to 5+	Full-time: 15 days (120 hours) Part-time: Hours paid x .057692
6 to 10+	Full-time: 18 days (144 hours) Part-time: Hours paid x .069231
11 to 15+	Full-time: 21 days (168 hours) Part-time: Hours paid x .080769
16+	Full-time: 24 days (192 hours) Part-time: Hours paid x .092308

2. A Multiple Jobs Employee accrues vacation leave based upon the hours worked in the Primary Position and not the hours worked in a Subordinate Position or for a Subordinate Agency.
3. For purposes of leave accrual, Human Resources shall establish an employee's service date based upon prior relevant experience and any service in a comparable public merit system.
4. Vacation and the personal preference day may be used after the employee has completed one month of employment.
5. Vacation may be used in increments of one quarter hour or more.

## Salt Lake County Human Resources Policy 4-200: Leave Practices

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6. Personal Preference Day
  - a. Employees eligible to accrue and use vacation are eligible to use a personal preference day based on FTE.
    - i. Employees may take the Personal Preference Day at their discretion with supervisor approval.
    - ii. The Personal Preference Day may not be taken in increments (i.e., a .75 FTE may take one 6-hour Preference Day, not two 3-hour Preference Days).
  - b. Preference days are not cumulative and will be forfeited if not used within the calendar year.
7. Employees must request approval to use accrued vacation from their supervisor prior to scheduling.
8. Administrators will encourage employees to use accrued vacation and to arrange work schedules so that employees may take vacations at times convenient for them as well as for the County.
9. Holidays occurring while an employee is on vacation are not deducted from accrued vacation.
10. Employees are not allowed to use vacation for any period of time not currently documented in the payroll system.
11. No more than 40 days (320 hours) of unused accrued vacation will be carried from one year to the succeeding year (use or lose).
12. Vacation is not accrued when an employee is in leave without pay status.
13. Vacation accrued at the time an employee terminates will be paid in accordance with HR Policies [2-800 Resignation and Exit Interviews](#); [4-300 Insurance and Retirement Programs](#); and [4-900 Retirement Policy](#).
14. Agencies may not require a minimum balance of accrued vacation leave.
- L. Parental Leave
  1. Eligibility - To qualify for parental leave a Benefits Eligible employee must meet all of the following conditions at the time of the birth or adoption:
    - a. The employee must have worked for y 12 months or 52 weeks (2080 hours) with no break in employment;
    - b. The employee must have worked at least 1,250 hours during the 12-month period immediately prior to the requested leave date (paid leave time does not count toward this requirement); and
    - c. The employee must be taking the leave for:
      - i. the birth of a child and to care for that child; or
      - ii. the placement of a child for adoption and to care for the newly placed child.
  2. Employees that are eligible for parental leave are entitled to receive six weeks (240 hours) of consecutive paid leave.
    - a. The eligible birth mother or parent giving birth is entitled to an additional six weeks (240 hours) of consecutive paid leave immediately after the birth to recover from the physical and medical effects of pregnancy and childbirth.
    - b. Employees may accrue holiday leave for holidays that occur during parental leave.
    - c. If an employee on parental leave is required to attend a work-related activity, and records paid time, that does not violate the requirement that the leave be taken consecutively.
  3. Employees will report the pending birth or adoption of a child to their supervisor as soon as practicable.
  4. Administrators are responsible for approving parental leave requests and shall require documentation verifying the birth or adoption.
  5. Parental leave must commence within six months of the birth or adoption of the child.

# Salt Lake County Human Resources Policy 4-200: Leave Practices

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## M. Voluntary Furlough

1. Employees in the following employment statuses are eligible to participate in the voluntary furlough program: 02 regular, 03 probationary, 04 provisional, 08 permanent part-time, 09 part time, 12 time limited appointed and 95 appointed.
2. The Voluntary Furlough Program is available only when authorized for budget-required reasons by the County Council.
3. Employees in the following employment statuses must have a combination of 80 hours of accrued vacation and sick leave before the voluntary furlough is approved and taken: 02 regular, 03 probationary, 04 provisional and 08 permanent part-time.
4. Voluntary furlough leave is approved in the same manner as vacation and sick time.
5. An employee may take no more than 30 voluntary furlough days per calendar year and no more than ten consecutive voluntary furlough days at a time.
6. Voluntary furlough leave is recorded as leave without pay.
7. Employees designated as Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) non-exempt may take furlough as a normal scheduled workday or partial day; a partial day is considered to be one-half the employee's normally scheduled workday.
8. Employees designated as FLSA exempt may take furlough in full day increments and do not lose their exempt status except for the workweek in which the furlough occurs.
  - a. An FLSA exempt employee will not perform any work-related tasks while on furlough.
  - b. An FLSA exempt employee will not work more than 40 total hours including regular hours and furloughed hours during a workweek.
9. Employees cannot use leave time or work extra hours during a work week to cover furlough time.
10. Employees cannot use furlough time as part of an approved leave without pay or for a disciplinary suspension.
11. An employee who elects to include a legal holiday as part of the Voluntary Furlough Program will not be paid for the designated legal holiday(s).
12. Employees approved for furlough receive the same benefits available under this policy, HR Policy [4-300 Insurance and Retirement Programs](#), and HR Policy [4-900 Retirement Policy](#) at a reduced rate.
13. Voluntary furlough is not considered a break in service requiring a service date adjustment.
14. No overtime costs or the use of temporary employees will be used or incurred as a result of granting a furlough.
15. The Human Resources Division will develop and distribute a [form](#) for participating agencies to document the terms of the voluntary furlough program.
16. Employees paid by a funding source other than the County will only be granted furlough time consistent with the terms and conditions of the funding source.

## N. Unauthorized Leave

1. Any other absence not covered above and approved by the agency may be designated as unauthorized leave without pay and could result in discipline.

## O. Intra-County Transfer

1. A transferred employee keeps all accrued annual and sick leave.
2. A non-exempt transferred employee shall have their accrued compensatory time either cashed out prior to the transfer or transferred with the employee if approved by the receiving agency's discretion.

## P. Exhaustion of Leave

1. An employee who has exhausted all available leave may be subject to an Administrative Separation.

# Salt Lake County Human Resources Policy 4-200: Leave Practices

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Q. Status Change Pay Out of Leave

1. An employee shall have the option to be paid out or bank vacation and holiday leave when changing from a status that accrues leave to a status that does not.

References

- A. Uniformed Services Employment & Re-employment Rights Act, 38 U.S.C. 43-4301 *et seq.*
- B. Utah Code Ann. § 63-13-2 *et seq.*
- C. Utah Code Ann. § 39-1-36 *et seq.*
- D. Utah Code Ann. § 10-3-1103 *et seq.*
- E. Human Resources Policy:
  2. 1-200, General Definitions
  3. 2-100, Employment Status
  4. 3-1200, Administrative Separations
  5. 2-800, Resignation and Exit Interviews
  6. 4-400, Workers' Compensation
  7. 4-600, Family and Medical Leave (FMLA)
  8. 4-800, Service Awards
  9. 5-100, Pay and Employment Practices

APPROVED and ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

**SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL**

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Aimee Winder Newton, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherrie Swensen, County Clerk

Voting:  
Council Member Alvord \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member Bradley \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member Bradshaw \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member Granato \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member Harrison \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member Theodore \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member Stewart \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member Stringham \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member Winder Newton \_\_\_\_\_