

ARTICLE IV – SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFITS AND HOLIDAYS

A. Paid Leaves

1. Sick Leave –

i. Sick Leave Bank

Upon the date of execution of this Agreement, every sick leave bank established pursuant to the provisions of the Agreement that was the predecessor to this Agreement shall be maintained for the benefit of all those members of the bargaining unit who shall choose, pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement, to become a member thereof; and any member of the bargaining unit who is a member of any such bank on the effective date of this Agreement shall remain a member thereof subject to the terms and conditions of this Section A.

ii. Sick Leave Bank Membership



The benefit of the sick leave bank is to provide full-time and salaried part-time unit members with leave when it enables a unit member to return to work following the period of leave. Unit members are entitled to membership in the sick leave bank in the following circumstances unless they opt out of participation in the bank.

- a. Any person who becomes a member of the bargaining unit on or after September 1 in any work year shall automatically become a member of the sick leave bank and be deemed to have assigned seven and one-half (7.5) hours (the equivalent of one (1) day) (fifteen (15) hours (the equivalent of two days) at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy) of their sick leave accumulation to the bank on the date on which they first accrue at least seven and one-half (7.5) hours (the equivalent of one (1) day) (or the respective fifteen (15) hours) of their sick leave accumulation to the bank on the date on which they first accrue at least seven and one-half (7.5) hours (the equivalent of one (1) day) (or the respective fifteen (15) hours) of such leave unless, during the preceding thirty (30) days they shall have elected not to become a member of the bank; such election shall be made in writing and otherwise in accordance with such requirements as may be established by the University
- b. Each year on October 1, unit members (other than those described in paragraph (a) above) not already members of the bank shall become a member of the bank and be deemed to have assigned seven and one-half (7.5) hours (the equivalent of one day) or (fifteen (15) hours (the

equivalent of two days) at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy) of their accrued sick leave to the bank unless, during the preceding thirty (30) days, they shall have elected not to become a member of the bank; such election shall be made in writing and otherwise in accordance with such requirements as may be established by the University. Unit members who do not have the required number of hours of sick leave on October 1 and who do not opt out of the bank will contribute seven and one-half (7.5) hours (the equivalent of one day) or fifteen (15) hours (the equivalent of two days), whichever applies, when those sick leave hours have accrued.

c. When the balance of hours in the bank falls below the contractual minimum the University President shall give notice of such, and seven and one-half (7.5) hours (fifteen (15) hours at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts or the Massachusetts Maritime Academy) of accrued sick leave are automatically contributed to the bank from each bank member, unless the bank member opts out of participation in the bank within fifteen (15) days of the notice.

d. The President or designee shall maintain a register of the membership of the sick leave bank and the number of hours accumulated in the bank.

e. No member of the bargaining unit shall be entitled to become a member of the sick leave bank save as is hereinbefore provided.

iii. Sick Leave Bank Administration

1. Notifications

a. Sick Leave Bank Hours

On October 1st of each academic year, the University President (or designee) shall notify the Chapter President of the number of hours in the sick leave bank.



b. Sick Leave Bank Hours Below Contractual Minimum

The University President (or designee) will also notify the Chapter President when the number of hours in the bank is falling below the contractual minimum.


i. Whenever the accumulation of sick leave in the sick leave bank shall have fallen below three hundred seventy-five (375) hours (the equivalent of fifty (50) days), or, in the case of the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, the Massachusetts

College of Liberal Arts and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, whenever such accumulation shall have fallen below one hundred eighty-seven and one-half (187.5) hours (the equivalent of twenty-five (25) days), the President (or designee) shall notify the Chapter President and members of the bank in writing.

- ii. On the fifteenth (15th) day following the giving of such notice, every member of the sick leave bank shall be deemed to have assigned seven and one-half (7.5) hours (the equivalent of one (1) day) of their personal sick leave accumulation to the bank unless, during the period of fifteen (15) days following the giving of such notice, they shall have elected, in the manner described above, not to remain a member of the bank; provided, however, that any member of the sick leave bank wishing to remain a member thereof and who shall have exhausted their personal sick leave accumulation on the date of the giving of such notice, shall be deemed to have assigned such additional hours within fifteen (15) days after the date on which such member is next entitled to personal sick leave, unless, within such period, they shall have elected, in the manner described above, not to remain a member of the bank; and provided further that such member shall retain all their rights in the bank until such election shall have been made.

c. Sick Leave Bank Enrollment and Opt Out Notices

Additionally, at each University the administration will give notice of the sick leave bank and the ability to opt out of participation in the bank as follows:

- i. To new unit members in time to opt out of participation in the bank.
- ii. To unit members who are not members of the bank, by September 30 each year.
- iii. ~~To the extent possible,~~  to unit members who are members of the bank, fifteen (15) days before automatic contributions are required to maintain the bank at the contractual minimum.

- iv. ~~To the extent possible,~~ to unit members who are members of the bank fifteen (15) days before the end of the semester if automatic contributions are likely to be required during the summer.

iv. Sick Leave Bank Eligibility, Request, and Utilization

1. Eligibility

To be eligible to utilize the sick leave bank, unit members must first exhaust all sick and personal leave accruals, ~~including vacation leave accruals for librarians and excess workload credits for faculty.~~ Following the exhaustion of all sick leave accruals and excess workload credits, a unit member is then eligible to use the sick leave bank but not before being ~~off the payroll for thirty-seven and one-half (37.5) hours.~~

2. Request

~~A request to draw upon the sick leave bank will be made to the President or designee. Said application will include the date by which the unit member has been off the payroll for thirty-seven and one-half (37.5) hours, the number of sick leave bank hours being requested, whether use will be on a part time or full time basis, and the anticipated return to work date. In addition, such sick leave bank application should document the medical necessity or appropriateness of doing so, by submitting to the University a statement or similar record from a qualified medical provider that confirms the same; and includes an anticipated return to work date. Updated documentation may be required upon request.~~

~~Approval or denial of an request to use the sick leave bank will be communicated in writing to the unit member and shall not be unreasonably denied. An approval will note the days the unit member will be off the payroll for thirty-seven and one-half (37.5) hours, the number of sick leave bank hours the unit member will be using, the corresponding dates the unit member will be on the sick leave bank, and the unit member's anticipated return to work date.~~

~~The denial of a request to draw upon the sick leave bank will not be subject to the grievance process as outlined in Article XI.~~

Unit members must provide appropriate information and documentation to the Human Resources Office including whether

use will be on a part-time or full-time basis and the anticipated return to work date.

3. Utilization:

The utilization of the sick leave bank is not intended for indefinite leave. The benefit of the sick leave bank is to provide unit members with leave when it enables a unit member to return to work following the period of leave.



Unit members shall not be permitted to be drawn from the sick leave bank for use pursuant to subparagraphs (iii), (iv) (A)), (v) or (vi) of the preceding paragraph (a).

a. Duration of Sick Leave Bank Utilization

~~Once a unit member has been off the payroll for thirty seven and one half (37.5) hours,~~ every member of the sick leave bank shall draw upon the sick leave bank as needed; provided, however, that no member of the bargaining unit shall, during any five (5)-year period commencing with the date on which they first draw upon the sick leave bank, draw in the aggregate therefrom more than the length of time the member has been employed as a full-time or salaried part-time unit member or the equivalent of ~~two (2)-one (1)~~ work year of sick leave for any single illness or injury, whichever time period is the shorter; and provided further that no two (2) absences shall be deemed to have been occasioned by the same illness or injury if separated from one another by more than one (1) calendar year. For a period not to exceed one hundred eighty-five (185) days during the applicable work year(s), a member of the sick leave bank who otherwise qualifies to draw upon the sick leave bank shall be entitled to draw upon the sick leave bank on a part-time basis in conjunction with part-time employment at the University; provided only that such member on the sick leave bank shall have documented the medical necessity or appropriateness of doing so, either as a reasonable accommodation for a disability or otherwise, by submitting to the University a statement or similar record from a qualified medical provider that confirms the same. The partial days from the sick leave bank shall be subtracted from the ~~two (2) one (1)~~ work years' maximum described in this paragraph.

b. Full-time Use:

- i. Faculty who are members of the bank may use up to ~~two thousand three hundred eighty seven and one~~ ~~two thousand seven hundred seventy-five (2,775)~~

~~half (1,387.5) hours~~ or the number of hours equal to the length of time the member has been employed as a full-time or salaried part-time unit member, whichever time period is the shorter, for one (1) illness/injury; charges to the bank are made only during the faculty work year, exclusive of ten (10) holidays.

- ii. Librarians who are members of the bank may use up to ~~one thousand eight hundred forty five hours (1,845) hours~~ ~~three thousand seven hundred five (3,705) hours~~ or the number of hours equal to the length of time the member has been employed as a full-time librarian, whichever time period is the shorter, for one (1) illness/injury; charges to the bank are made during the librarian work year, exclusive of twelve (12) holidays.

c. Part-time Use:



- i. Faculty who are members of the bank may use up to ~~six hundred ninety three and three quarters (693.75)~~ ~~one thousand three hundred eighty-seven and one-half (1,387.5) hours~~ or the number of hours equal to the length of time the member has been employed as a full-time or salaried part-time unit member, whichever time period is the shorter, on a part-time basis for one (1) illness/injury; charges to the bank are made only during the faculty work year, exclusive of ten (10) holidays.
- ii. Librarians who are members of the bank may use up to ~~nine hundred twenty two and one half (926.5)~~ ~~one thousand eight hundred fifty-two and one-half (1,852.5) hours~~ or the number of hours equal to the length of time the member has been employed as a full-time or salaried part-time unit member, whichever time period is the shorter, on a part-time basis for one (1) illness/injury; charges to the bank are made during the librarian work year, exclusive of eleven (12) holidays.
- iii. Any sick leave drawn from the bank on a part-time basis is subtracted from the maximum amounts described in paragraph (a) above.

iv. If a full-time unit member is drawing from the bank on a part-time basis and becomes fully incapacitated from working, the member shall draw from the bank on a full-time basis, regardless of the cause of the additional incapacity, ~~without having to be off the payroll for an additional 37.5 hours.~~

v. Accrual of Sick Leave While on the Sick Leave Bank

Whenever a unit member is drawing upon the sick leave bank and, while doing so, they are entitled to accumulate sick leave as if they were actively working in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing paragraph (a), the amount of such sick leave that would otherwise accrue to such unit member shall accrue in its full amount to the sick leave bank.

vi. Personal Leave and Vacation Leave

1. If a unit member who is drawing on the bank has unused personal leave before December 31, then the unit member's absence is to be charged to their remaining personal leave rather than to the bank. ~~The member shall not be required to be off the payroll for an additional 37.5 hours.~~
2. ~~If a librarian who is drawing on the bank has accrued four hundred eighty (480) hours of vacation leave and there is no agreement with the Vice President to accrue more than four hundred eighty (480) hours of vacation leave, then the librarian's excess vacation credits are to be converted to sick leave. Such sick leave shall be credited to the bank.~~

~~Any member of the bargaining unit who shall have ceased to be eligible to draw upon the sick leave bank in respect of any illness or injury shall be entitled to be accorded an unpaid leave of absence for up to two (2) years for such illness or injury.~~

vii. Medical Examinations and Appeals

The President may at any time, or upon the written request of the Chapter President shall, require that any member of the bargaining unit who ~~has requested to utilize the sick leave bank for their personal illness is on leave of absence by reason of illness~~ be examined by a physician chosen by the President; and any member of the bargaining unit who thereafter fails or declines to be so examined shall not be entitled to draw upon any accumulated sick leave or upon any sick leave bank for so long as they fail or decline to be so examined. The cost of any such examination shall be borne by the University.

In the event that the physician conducting such examination thereafter certifies that the member of the bargaining unit in question is medically able

to resume the performance of their duties, such member of the bargaining unit shall thereupon do so, and their entitlement to sick leave shall cease on the date they resume the performance of their duties or at the expiration of the fifth (5th) day following the date of the physician's certification, whichever is sooner; provided that such entitlement shall not lapse during the pendency of any appeal from the physician's certification.

Should a unit member wish to appeal any physician's certification, they shall do so by giving notice thereof in writing to the President of the University within five (5) days following the date of such certification. Within ten (10) days following the giving of such notice, ~~an independent medical exam will be scheduled~~ the member of the bargaining unit shall give further notice to the President of the name of a physician whom he/she thereby designates to serve as a member of a medical review panel, which panel shall be thereupon constituted for the purpose of considering the question whether the member of the bargaining unit in question is medically able to resume the performance of their duties. Failure to give either of the above-described notices in a timely fashion shall constitute waiver of the appeal.

The medical review panel shall be composed of the physician so designated by the member of the bargaining unit; the physician whose certification has given rise to the appeal or another physician chosen by the President if the first is unwilling or unable to serve; and a third physician chosen by the other two (2).

The ~~independent~~ medical ~~examiner~~-review panel, as promptly as they may, shall by a majority vote of its members, determine whether the member of the bargaining unit is or is not, at that time, medically able to resume the performance of their duties. The independent medical ~~examiner~~-panel shall not be required to conduct any hearings in this regard but the panel may require such member of the bargaining unit to produce, or authorize the release of, such medical records as they deem relevant to make a determination, or to conduct or cause to conduct a physical examination as they deem appropriate.

The unit member requesting to utilize the sick leave bank will work with the University to ensure that the review panel will meet and issue a decision within 60-days of their appeal. In the event that it is not practicable for the panel to meet and issue a decision within 60-days of the appeal, the member, Association, and University designee will meet and set up an alternate timeline within the 60-day appeal period.

The decision of the ~~independent~~ medical review ~~examiner~~ panel shall be final and binding and shall not be the subject of any claim or grievance prosecuted pursuant to Article XI of this Agreement or otherwise. Notwithstanding the foregoing, upon the written request of either party to this Agreement, such decision may be reconsidered by the same panel or, in

the event that any of its members are unwilling or unable to serve, by one constituted in like fashion. Any such panel shall have the authorities and responsibilities of the original panel.

The University shall bear the cost of ~~said independent medical exam~~ any physician designated by it to serve ~~for this purpose~~. on a medical review panel, the member of the bargaining unit taking the appeal shall bear the cost of any physician designated by him/her for such purpose,. and the parties to this Agreement shall, in equal shares, bear the cost of the third physician; provided, however, that they shall not be required to bear the cost of any laboratory tests or other medical procedures, exclusive of physical examinations conducted by members of the panel, without their first agreeing to do so.

The failure or refusal of any member of the bargaining unit who has taken an appeal to submit to ~~the independent medical~~ any physical examination by a member or members of a medical review panel or to produce, or authorize the production of, any medical records requested by ~~the independent medical examiner~~ such panel shall be cause for it to dismiss such appeal.

~~Sick leave shall not be permitted to be drawn from the sick leave bank for use pursuant to subparagraphs (iii), (iv), (v) or (vi) of the preceding paragraph (a).~~

B.