

Sick Leave

1005.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidance regarding the use and processing of sick leave. The accrual and terms of use of sick leave for eligible employees are detailed in the State personnel manual or applicable collective bargaining agreement.

This policy is not intended to cover all types of sick or other leaves. For example, employees may be entitled to additional paid or unpaid leave for certain family and medical reasons as provided for in the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) (29 USC § 2601 et seq.) and the California Family Rights Act, and leave related to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or for organ or bone marrow donor procedures (29 CFR 825; Government Code § 12945.2; Labor Code § 230.1; Labor Code § 1510).

1005.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the CSU System to provide eligible employees of the Fresno State Police Department with a sick leave benefit that coincides with their respective Collective Bargaining Units.

1005.3 USE OF SICK LEAVE

Sick leave is intended to be used for qualified absences. Sick leave is not considered vacation. Abuse of sick leave may result in discipline, denial of sick leave benefits, or both.

Employees on sick leave shall not engage in other employment or self-employment or participate in any sport, hobby, recreational activity or other activity that may impede recovery from the injury or illness (see Outside Employment Policy).

Qualified appointments should be scheduled during a member's non-working hours when it is reasonable to do so.

1005.3.1 NOTIFICATION

All patrol personnel shall notify Dispatch as soon as they are aware that they will not be able to report to work and no less than one hour before the start of their scheduled shifts. If, due to an emergency, a member is unable to contact Dispatch, every effort should be made to have a representative for the member contact Dispatch (Labor Code § 246).

Dispatch personnel shall log the reported member's notification in RIMS and then advise the on-duty Shift Sergeant or senior officer in charge of the pending absence. The on-duty supervisor/OIC shall ensure that the pending absence will not adversely impact patrol staffing and shall notify the Patrol Operations Lieutenant if shift coverage is necessary.

Personnel working in Investigations or other Administrative functions shall notify their immediate supervisor if unable to report to work as scheduled.

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When the necessity to be absent from work is foreseeable, such as planned medical appointments or treatments, the member shall, whenever possible and practicable, provide the Department with no less than 30 days' notice of the impending absence (Labor Code § 246).

Upon return to work, members are responsible for ensuring their time off was appropriately accounted for, and for completing and submitting the required documentation describing the type of time off used and the specific amount of time taken.

1005.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

Supervisors should monitor sick leave usage and regularly review the attendance of employees under their command to ensure that the use of sick leave is consistent with this policy. Supervisors should address sick-leave use in the employee's performance evaluation when it has negatively affected the employee's performance or ability to complete assigned duties, and when unusual amounts of sick leave by the employee has had a negative impact on department operations. When appropriate, supervisors should counsel employees regarding the excessive use of sick leave and should consider referring the employee to the Employee Assistance Program.

1005.5 EXTENDED ABSENCE

Members absent from duty for more than five consecutive days may be required to furnish a statement from a health care provider supporting the need to be absent and/or the ability to return to work. Members on an extended absence shall, if possible, contact their supervisor at specified intervals to provide an update on their absence and expected date of return.

Nothing in this section precludes a supervisor from requiring, with cause, a health care provider's statement for an absence of five or fewer days after the first five days of paid sick leave are used in a 12-month period.

1005.6 REQUIRED NOTICES

The Director of Human Resources shall ensure:

- (a) Written notice of the amount of paid sick leave available is provided to employees as provided in Labor Code § 246.
- (b) A poster is displayed in a conspicuous place for employees to review that contains information on paid sick leave as provided in Labor Code § 247.

1005.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Monitoring and regularly reviewing the attendance of those under their command to ensure that the use of sick leave and absences is consistent with this policy.
- (b) Attempting to determine whether an absence of five or more consecutive days may qualify as family medical leave and consulting with legal counsel or the Department of Human Resources as appropriate.

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- (c) Addressing absences and sick leave use in the member's performance evaluation when excessive or unusual use has:
 - 1. Negatively affected the member's performance or ability to complete assigned duties.
 - 2. Negatively affected department operations.
- (d) When appropriate, counseling members regarding excessive absences and/or inappropriate use of sick leave.
- (e) Referring eligible members to an available employee assistance program when appropriate.