

LEAVE ENTITLEMENT PROCEDURE

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1. OVERVIEW

The University of Adelaide is committed to contemporary and flexible employment practices and provides leave entitlements for staff to meet personal, family, work and community commitments without compromising the achievement of business objectives.

This procedure prescribes the general conditions, eligibility and process to be followed to access staff leave entitlements, consistent with the [Workforce Management Policy](#) and clause 4 of the [University of Adelaide Enterprise Agreement](#).

2. SCOPE AND APPLICATION

2.1. Inclusions

This procedure applies to all staff members.

Casual staff members are only entitled to the following types of leave via their timesheet:

- unpaid parental leave (maternity/adoption/special)
- long service leave
- unpaid personal leave
- family and domestic violence leave, and
- unpaid compassionate leave

2.2. Application

The following are the types of leave provided for in the University of Adelaide Enterprise Agreement (as amended):

2.2.1. Annual Leave – clause 4.1

Annual leave loading is paid to all staff members (excluding casuals) in the first pay period of December in each year.

Where a staff member suffers a personal injury or is sick while on annual leave, they may have their annual leave for the days re-credited, provided that a medical certificate is supplied and the personal leave balance is in credit.

Academic staff members who were employed by the former SACAE and Roseworthy Agricultural College at the time of the merger with the University of Adelaide are entitled to grace days in lieu of annual leave during the Christmas closedown.

Subject to the above, for both professional and academic staff members, the University will deduct annual leave for each working day on which the University is not open other than the first working day following Proclamation Day ('University Day') to cover the Christmas closedown in accordance with the Enterprise Agreement. If the staff member does not have an annual leave balance sufficient to cover the Christmas closedown period, annual leave will nevertheless be applied and the staff member will have a negative leave balance until the accrual has occurred.

Academic staff members with an annual leave balance of 20 days or more (pro rata for part-time staff members) at the end of the final pay period in November will have annual leave applied and will commence their leave at the time of the Christmas closedown each year. The leave applied will be for a period of 20 working days (pro rata for part-time staff members). Notwithstanding this, an academic staff member may, by agreement with their supervisor, take their annual leave at an alternative time. The staff member must enter the approved alternative leave arrangement in Staff Services Online (SSO) by the end of the final pay period in October.

2.2.2. Personal Leave (sick/carer's) – clause 4.2

2.2.3. Compassionate Leave – clause 4.3

2.2.4. Parental Leave (maternity/adoption/shared paid parental/partner) – clause 4.5

Time off for parental leave may include paid maternity leave, unpaid maternity leave, annual leave, and long service leave periods. Where a staff member intends to apply for other forms of leave during the period of parental leave (e.g. annual leave), the application may only include a request for these other forms of leave on dates when paid parental leave entitlements have been exhausted. For example, an application for six months' paid maternity leave at full pay, four weeks' annual leave, two weeks' long service leave, and the balance as unpaid maternity leave would be acceptable.

If a staff member has been employed at the University for less than 12 months, they may access paid parental leave on a pro-rata basis in accordance with the Pro-Rata Paid Parental Leave Procedure.

2.2.5. Special Paid Parental Leave (SPPL) – clause 4.5.2.4

Approval of SPPL is at the discretion of the University. Staff may be eligible for special paid parental leave where a staff member:

- is employed on a continuing or fixed term contract, and
- has no entitlement to paid maternity or adoption leave under the Enterprise Agreement; and
- becomes the primary carer of a child of less than one (1) year of age; and
- can demonstrate a special case for payment of leave.

A staff member who has been employed at the University for less than 12 months on a continuing or fixed term contract may be eligible to access SPPL on a pro-rata basis in accordance with the Pro-Rata Paid Parental Leave Procedure.

To apply for special paid parental leave eligible staff must:

- Complete the application form including a detailed submission describing the exceptional circumstances that support a special case for payment of parental leave; and
- Provide all relevant medical and/or third party and/or other evidence as necessary to support the special case for approving SPPL and to satisfy the University that they are the primary carer of the child at the time of the proposed leave.
- Submit the application to their Head of School or Branch Head for their consideration.

The Head of School or Branch Head will:

- Consider the application for SPPL in a timely manner
- Take into account the eligibility requirements and the special case submitted by the staff member and consider whether the specific circumstances of the application warrant granting paid parental leave
- Seek assistance from their [HR Advisor](#) where necessary
- Complete the application form, and if the application is supported, make a case to the Executive Dean stating why they support the application for SPPL
- Not consider applications which do not provide sufficient detail or evidence of the circumstances that give rise to the request for paid leave
- Forward the completed application to the Executive Dean for consideration.

The Executive Dean will:

- Consider the application for SPPL
- Take into consideration the eligibility requirements and the special case of the staff member, and decide whether the specific circumstance of the application warrant granting paid parental leave and whether the faculty can fund the SPPL
- Complete the application form, and if they support the application, and the faculty can fund the SPPL, recommend the application to the Executive Director, Human Resources for approval

The Executive Director, Human Resources will:

- Consider the application and recommendation of the Executive Dean and either approve or decline the application
- Notify the Executive Dean and Head of School of their decision

The decision of the Executive Director, Human Resources is final.

Notification of Outcome

- The Head of School will notify the staff member of the outcome of their SPPL application.
- If the application is unsuccessful, the Head of School should provide the staff member with advice on any available alternatives for them to access paid or unpaid leave entitlements.

2.2.6. Family and Domestic Violence Leave – clause 4.4

The entitlement to 10 days' paid family and domestic violence leave in a 12-month period under National Employment Standards applies in full to all staff (not pro-rata).

The full entitlement is available up front from 1 February 2023 or the first day of employment.

It is not cumulative across years if the full entitlement is not used and renews annually on the staff members' work anniversary.

Staff members will be paid at their full usual rate of pay for the hours they would normally have worked that day or were rostered to work that day.

2.2.7. Community Service Leave – clause 4.6

For jury service, a staff member is required to enter their leave in Staff Services Online (SSO) once they have confirmation of the specific days required to attend jury service. If they are not required to attend jury service on a particular day, they will attend work as usual.

2.2.8. Cultural Obligation Leave – clause 4.7

Supervisors/managers have an obligation to make every reasonable effort to accommodate requests for cultural obligation leave while having regards to the needs of the area.

2.2.9. Special Paid Leave – clause 4.8

2.2.10. Trade Union Training Leave – clause 4.9

2.2.11. Leave Without Pay – clause 4.10

2.2.12. Long Service Leave – clause 4.11

Staff who were working for an Australian university in a paid full-time or part-time capacity immediately prior to commencing with the University (i.e. within the preceding two months) are subject to clause 4.11.6, eligible to have their prior continuous service recognised for long service leave purposes.

Professional staff who were working in the South Australian or Commonwealth Public Service immediately prior to commencing with the University (i.e. within the preceding two months) are eligible to have their prior continuous service recognised for long service leave purposes.

In order to access this entitlement, the staff member is to fill out the Recognition of Prior Service Application Form and email it to hrservicecentre@adelaide.edu.au for processing.

Staff who were employed by the University on a casual basis prior to being employed on a fixed term or continuing basis can apply to have their prior casual continuous service recognised for the purposes of long service leave. The staff member is to send a request to hrservicecentre@adelaide.edu.au for processing.

2.2.13. Defence Leave – clause 4.12

Where a public holiday occurs during a period of personal leave, annual leave, long service leave, or compassionate leave, the public holiday does not count as a period of leave.

3. PRINCIPLES

All leave applications must be approved in accordance with this procedure.

Staff members must ensure they meet the eligibility provisions for the type of leave required outlined in clause 4 of the University of Adelaide Enterprise Agreement.

The respective Faculty/School/Branch is financially responsible for the cost of all types of leave including annual leave and long service leave, except for parental/maternity/adoption leave, which is centrally funded.

Eligible staff must speak to their supervisor regarding their proposed leave plan or any unplanned leave taken before applying for and entering the request into Staff Services Online (SSO) or submitting the appropriate parental leave application form.

4. PROCEDURES

4.1. Requesting Leave in Staff Services Online (SSO)

For full-time and part-time staff, all types of leave described in this procedure, with the exception of parental leave, are applied for, amended, or cancelled through SSO.

Casual staff are to apply for the relevant leave via their timesheet.

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Staff must ensure to not make any financial commitments (e.g. booking a holiday) before advising their supervisor, applying and gaining approval for the leave request.

Staff are permitted to request up to two days' annual leave in advance of accrual of that leave when they submit an application for leave through SSO.

In limited circumstances the supervisor may consider a staff member's request for leave in advance in excess of two days. Where the supervisor is supportive of a staff member's request to access more than two days of annual leave in advance, they will need to write an accompanying justification that outlines the amount of leave and details their support. This will then require the approval of the Head of School/Branch Head who should forward the approval to the HR Service Centre.

Should the staff member cease their employment prior to accruing sufficient leave, this will result in an overpayment that will be recovered by the University in accordance with the Enterprise Agreement.

4.2. Approving/Declining Leave in Staff Services Online (SSO)

In reviewing a staff member's request for any planned or unplanned leave, the supervisor must take into consideration the staff member's eligibility, leave balances, and review the area's operational requirements and work commitments to ensure suitable arrangements can be made to carry on essential work within the area.

The supervisor must approve or decline the leave request as per University Delegations through SSO. Supervisors have an obligation to make every reasonable effort to accommodate the leave while having regard to the needs of the area.

Supervisors must ensure all leave taken is entered into SSO and approved by the supervisor.

The Area Manager, Head of School, and Branch Head have the delegation as per the University Delegations to approve or decline a request for leave without pay through SSO.

4.3. Cancelling and/or Amending Leave in Staff Services Online (SSO)

Staff must speak to their supervisor regarding any amendments or cancellations to previously submitted and approved leave and submit the leave amendment/cancellation in SSO.

Supervisors will approve or decline leave amendments/cancellations in SSO.

4.4. Requesting Parental/Maternity/Adoption Leave/Special Paid Leave

To apply for parental leave, eligible staff must submit a parental/maternity/adoption leave application form or a shared parental/maternity/adoption leave application form.

To apply for special paid parental leave, eligible staff must submit a special paid parental leave form following the process detailed at 2.2.5 of this procedure.

5. DEFINITIONS

Area Manager

Area Manager means Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Vice-Presidents, Executive Deans, Executive Director Human Resources, and Institute Directors.

6. USEFUL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

University related documents and policies

[University of Adelaide Enterprise Agreement \(as amended\)](#)
[Remuneration and Employment Benefits Policy](#)
[Workforce Management Policy](#)
[Recognition of Prior Service Application Form](#)
[Special Paid Parental Leave Application Form](#)

Related legislation

[Age Discrimination Act 2004](#) (Cth)
[Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (Cth)
[Equal Opportunity Act 1984](#) (SA)
[Fair Work Act 2009](#) (Cth)
[Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986 \(Cth\)](#) (Cth)
[Privacy Act 1988](#) (Cth)
[Racial Discrimination Act 1975](#) (Cth)
[Racial Vilification Act 1996](#) (SA)
[Sex Discrimination Act 1984](#) (Cth)
[Work Health and Safety Act 2012](#) (SA)
[Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 \(SA\)](#)

Useful web-links

[HR Service Centre](#)
[Staff Services Online](#)
[Delegations of Authority](#)
[Special Paid Parental Leave FAQs](#)