Benefits Unique to Academic Year Faculty Positions (MSP)

Welcome to the University of Massachusetts Amherst!

Your new position with the University brings many benefits, some of which are unique to the University’s bargaining agreement with the Massachusetts Society of Professors (MSP). This document is a brief overview of those benefits which appear in your bargaining contract.

**Sick Time:** As a full-time employee in this bargaining unit you will accrue 3.07 hours each pay period (2 weeks) for a total of 10 days per year. Sick leave accruals are pro-rated based on your position’s full-time equivalency and amount of time paid. Use of more than 5 days of accrued sick time in order to care for another individual with a serious health condition requires approval from the MSP Sick Leave Bank Committee.

**Sick Leave Bank:** The Sick Leave Bank is intended to provide short-term salary continuation when you are unable to perform your job due to a non-work related disability, you have a reasonable expectation of returning to your pre-disability position and your accruals are insufficient to cover your absence. Prior to drawing from the Bank you must have an approved application and exhaust all of your own accrued sick leave. You may elect to join the Sick Leave Bank at any time by donating 1 or more days of your accrued sick leave. Benefit time accrues to the bank while you’re using the Sick Leave Bank. Also, members may donate additional sick time upon retirement and during open enrollment.

Full-time tenured and tenure-track & state-funded non-tenure-track faculty members with at least six years of full-time service and have appointments that make it possible to fulfill a return-to-work obligation are eligible for paid parental leave if they become biological or adoptive parents of a child under five years of age. These faculty members are eligible to enroll in the Sick Leave Bank concurrent with that event and receive a one-semester paid leave (inclusive of use of his/her own accrued sick leave). More detailed information is available in Section 27.14 of the MSP bargaining contract and at the Human Resources Employee Service Center (room 325 Whitmore Administration Building).

**Bereavement Leave:** Upon evidence satisfactory to the appointing authority of the death of your spouse, child, step-child, parent, step-parent, brother, sister, grandparent, or grandchild, spouse’s parent, a person for whom you are a legal guardian or primarily responsible for making funeral arrangements or a person living in your immediate household, you are entitled to leave without loss of pay for a maximum of four (4) consecutive working days within thirty (30) days of the death.

In the event of the death of your brother, sister, grandparent or grandchild of your spouse a maximum of one (1) workday.

**Note:**
- If the position you hold at the University is no longer affiliated with this bargaining unit this will result in a change to the benefits listed above. Please contact Human Resources (545.1478) with questions in this regard.
- As bargaining contracts are re-negotiated this may result in a change to the benefits listed above.
- For additional information on benefits unique to MSP employees, please reference the current MPS bargaining contract and the Faculty Guide. Where this document departs from the contract or University policy, the contract or policy will prevail.