

PERSONNEL POLICIES FOR CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES  
IN THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

(Revised January 2000)

PERSONNEL POLICIES FOR UNCLASSIFIED MANAGEMENT AND  
CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
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## **SECTION 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Section 1-10 Establishment of Personnel Policies**

The purpose of these policies is to establish guidelines for a fair system of personnel administration for unclassified confidential staff as defined in Section 1-20. Nothing in these policies shall be construed to restrict the authority of the Board of Trustees of Community-Technical Colleges (hereinafter, the Board) to govern the system.

The Board has responsibility for the implementation and enforcement of personnel policies in order to ensure uniformity, adequacy, and fairness of administration within the system. The Chancellor and each president is responsible for the administration of the policies and more particularly specified herein and by Board procedures. The president is responsible for all college-level personnel actions recommended to the Board and to the Chancellor.

### **Section 1-20 Management Committee**

There shall be a Management Committee of the Community Colleges which shall be representative of the management and confidential employees of the twelve colleges, and management and confidential employees in the System Office. There shall also be an Executive Committee of the Management Committee which shall represent the interests of managers and confidential employees in the system in interaction with the Chancellor and the Board with respect to issues of management concern. In addition, the Executive Committee may review suggestions concerning personnel policies, review existing policies, and initiate recommendations to the Chancellor and the Board. When changes in these policies are under consideration, the Executive Committee shall have the opportunity to comment, provided that provision shall not be deemed to limit the Board's right to modify or repeal these policies or to take emergency action without consultation.

### **Section 1-30 Applicability of Personnel Policies for Confidential Employees**

The personnel policies specified herein and the procedures for this implementation apply to excluded positions in the Community College System. Executive Assistant in the System Office, Executive Assistant to the President and Educational Services Aide. In addition, incumbents in the classification Personal Secretary shall be covered by the provisions of these policies until the classification is eliminated due to attrition of the current incumbents.

### **Section 1-40 Affirmative Action**

These policies shall be administered consistent with affirmative action and in compliance with statutory requirements.

## **SECTION 2 - SELECTION, APPOINTMENT AND TERMINATION**

### **Section 2-10 Recruitment and Selection**

Recruitment and selection of unclassified confidential staff is undertaken upon authorization by the Chancellor and in accordance with affirmative action.

### **Section 2-20 Staff Participation**

In the selection of unclassified confidential staff, the president should seek the advice of staff members who will work closely with the new appointee.

### **Section 2-30 Appointment Authority**

Except as the Board may expressly provide by written policy, the authority to offer appointments and reappointments rests with the Board.

### **Section 2-40 General Provisions**

- A. The Board maintains minimum requirements for appointment to a given classification or rank in order to ensure that unclassified confidential staff members possess the systematic preparation through organized study and/or experience that will enable them to serve well in the positions to which they are appointed.
- B. The fact that an unclassified confidential staff member satisfies the minimum qualifications for a particular classification or rank is not to be construed as making his/her appointment to that particular classification or rank mandatory.
- C. The Board may approve the submission of equivalent experience for minimal degree, academic, or work experience requirements. It may also make exception to those requirement.
- D. Appointment at a given rank constitutes evidence of approval of an equivalency or exception.

### **Section 2-50 Minimum Qualifications**

The Board has established the minimal qualifications for the classifications set out below. In so doing, the Board does not intend to create a right or expectation that achievement of the minimal qualifications for a particular rank assures appointment or promotion to that rank.

<b>CLASSIFICATION</b>	<b>DEGREE AND YEARS OF APPROPRIATE EXPERIENCE</b>
Educational Assistant	Variable
Educational Services Aide	Associate's Degree
Executive Assistant	Associate's Degree

### **Section 2-60 Definition and Duration of Appointment**

- A. Appointment is an action by the Board which grants an interest in employment for a specified period of one year or less, subject to annual reappointment. Appointments made by the Board are subject to adequate funding and statutory limitations on the authority of the Board.

In providing for evaluation and Board review of decisions not to reappoint as set out within these policies, the Board does not intend to grant a right to reappointment. Reappointment is at the sole discretion of the Board.

- B. Where the terms, appointment or standard appointment, are used in this section and Section 2-70, they shall refer to appointments in the current position and shall not incorporate prior service with the Board.

### **Section 2-70 Notice of Non-reappointment**

- A. Personnel having appointments of one year or less are entitled to notice of non-reappointment in accordance with the following schedule: for the first standard appointment, three months, for the second standard appointment, six months; and for the third and subsequent standard appointment, twelve months. Notice may be issued by the president or the Chancellor, as appropriate. The notice may be issued at any time, provided that the affected employee shall be entitled to employment for the specified notice period, at the Board's discretion, equivalent compensation.

- B. The unclassified confidential staff member may obtain Board review of a decision of the president or the Chancellor, as appropriate, not to recommend renewal of his/her appointment by filing with the Board within 30 days of the notice a written statement with supporting documentation that the decision is based in an improper reason. Board review may be by the Board, a committee of the Board, or a designee of the Board. An improper reason is defined as either:

1. A reason that is arbitrary or capricious. An arbitrary or capricious reason is one which is unrelated to the education process or to working relationships within the educational institution; which is trivial, or which has insufficient basis in fact.
2. A reason that infringes upon specific constitutional or statutory rights of the individual.

Utilization of the appeal provisions specified herein does not delay the effective date of termination, if that is upheld.

### **Section 2-80 Transfer**

- A. Transfer is the appointment by the Board of an unclassified confidential staff member to a community college other than the one at which he/she is employed.

- B. Application to transfer should be made directly to the president of the college to which transfer is desired. Applicants should inform the president of the college from which transfer is desired of any such application at the time the application is made. Candidates for transfer are subject to the same selection procedures as any other applicant for an available position.
- C. Requests to transfer to or from the System Office may be made directly to the Chancellor. Candidates for such transfer are subject to the same selection procedures as any other applicant for an available position.
- D. While the Board considers inter-college transfer that is not acceptable to both the president of the receiving college and the transferee inconsistent with the philosophy and purposes of the community colleges, it reserves the right to make such transfers.
- E. Consistent with the reservation in Section 1-10 the Board may effect transfer without implementation of a formal selection procedure.

#### **Section 2-90 Separation Because of Incapacity**

When a professional staff member has become physically or mentally incapable of or unfit for the efficient performance of duties of his/her position, the president may recommend to the Board that the person be separated from state service in good standing, after the professional staff member has exhausted the sick leave to which he/she is entitled. The Board may require that the professional staff member receive a physical or mental examination by competent medical professionals.

#### **Section 2-100 Suspension**

- A. The president or the Chancellor, as appropriate, may suspend confidential personnel with pay if the individual constitutes a threat of harm to himself/herself or to others or pending investigation of conduct for which discipline may be appropriate.
- B. The president or the Chancellor may suspend confidential personnel without pay for cause as specified in Section 2-110.C., below. In any given action, the affected employee shall have the right to know and respond to the reasons for suspension without pay prior to the imposition of the penalty.

#### **Section 2-110 Dismissal**

- A. Dismissal is an action by the Board which terminates the appointment of an unclassified confidential staff member. Dismissal is distinguished from nonrenewal, termination for special reasons, and termination for economic exigency, which are controlled by Sections 2-70, 2-120 and 2-130.
- B. Dismissal is to be for cause as defined below. Dismissal is affected by the Board on recommendation of the president or the Chancellor, as appropriate, and after opportunity for a hearing and shall be governed by the following procedure.

1. The president or the Chancellor, or other authorized designee of the Board shall notify the unclassified confidential staff member, in writing, that termination of his or her appointment is under consideration and shall give the reasons for such action. The unclassified confidential staff member may respond in writing, or may respond orally at a meeting, limiting the response to the reasons cited. The written or oral response or request for appeal must be initiated within seven (7) days of the notice.
  2. If after considering the response of the unclassified confidential staff member, or if the unclassified confidential staff member has not responded within the seven (7) days period, the initiating authority believes that there is cause for dismissal, he or she shall file written notice with the unclassified confidential staff member and the Board office that dismissal is recommended. Said notice shall contain the general statement of the reasons and a statement of the cause or causes.
  3. Upon receipt of said notice, the unclassified confidential staff member may, within ten (10) days, request in writing of the Chancellor that a hearing be granted him/her before a hearing panel designated by the Board. The question to be presented to the hearing panel is whether the recommendation to terminate the employment of the unclassified confidential staff member is arbitrary, capricious, or discriminatory.
  4. In any such hearings, the unclassified confidential staff member may be represented by counsel at his or her own expense; a written transcript shall be kept; the staff member may present written and oral evidence; and admission of evidence is in the discretion of the hearing panel, subject to general considerations of relevancy and materiality. The initiating authority is required to present evidence to support his/her recommendation. The burden of persuasion rests on the complainant, to establish his/her case by a preponderance of the evidence that the recommendation was arbitrary, capricious, or discriminatory.
  5. The final decision shall be made by the Board based on the written finding and conclusions of the hearing panel. The Board may direct the panel to hear additional evidence, supply additional findings, and/or clarify the basis for a conclusion.
- C. Dismissal of an unclassified confidential staff member, during the term of his/her appointment, may be for one or more of the following causes:
1. Incompetent or inadequate performance or responsibilities of the position.
  2. Persistent neglect of these responsibilities.
  3. Noncompliance with reasonable regulations or directives of the Board or of the college.

4. Conduct which impairs the effective performance of assigned responsibilities or which interferes with the work of the college or impairs the rights of students or of other staff members.
5. The use of fraud, collusion, or misrepresentation of a fact material to obtaining employment with the college or the System Office and/or tenure or promotion.

#### **Section 2-120 Termination or Reclassification for Special Reasons**

- A. Special reasons refer to (1) discontinuance and/or reduction in service programs, administrative reorganization, or other reasons associated with the allocation of institutional resources or (2) economic considerations, which shall include but not be limited to reduction or termination of funds provided by grant, contract, or the Board's revolving funds or any reductions in state appropriations or allotments.
- B. Notice of termination for special reasons shall be given by the president or the Chancellor, as appropriate, in accordance with the following schedule: for the first standard appointment, three months; for the second standard appointment, six months; for the third and subsequent standard appointment, twelve months. As used in this part, appointment refers to appointment with the Board in an unclassified position.

In the event that a president or the Chancellor is considering termination of a confidential position for special reasons, the president or the Chancellor, as appropriate shall inform the affected individual. For a period of thirty days thereafter, the affected individual may discuss the matter with the president, the Chancellor, and the Personnel Committee of the Board. The discussion is limited to the organizational aspects of the contemplated action; consideration of factors particular to the individual may be raised pursuant to Section 2-120 C., following notice of termination.

- C. An unclassified confidential staff member may obtain review of a decision to terminate for special reasons by filing with the Board within 30 days of the date of the notice a written allegation with supporting documentation that the termination is based on an improper reason as defined in Section 2-70 B. Review may be by the Board, a committee of the Board, or a designee of the Board.

#### **Section 2-130 Economic Exigency**

The Board reserves the right to terminate unclassified confidential personnel for reasons of economic exigency.

#### **Section 2-140 Placement**

The Board shall make a reasonable effort to place an individual who is terminated pursuant to Sections 2-120 and 2-130 in another suitable position within the system. This provision shall not create a right to any position opening with the system. The obligation shall terminate thirty days after the termination of the position.

## **SECTION 3 - DUTIES OF UNCLASSIFIED MANAGEMENT STAFF**

### **Section 3-10 General Provisions**

The president or Chancellor, as appropriate, is authorized to establish the duties of unclassified confidential staff within the general limits of the job description. The Chancellor is authorized to establish duties of unclassified confidential staff and to approve modification of job descriptions.

### **Section 3-20 Job Descriptions**

Responsibilities of unclassified confidential staff are defined by the system job description. Subject to the approval of the Chancellor, a job description may be modified by the president after consultation with the unclassified confidential staff member concerned. Participation in college-approved community service activities is considered a significant responsibility of college unclassified confidential staff members.

### **Section 3-30 Additional Employment**

- A. Outside employment shall not interfere with professional obligations at the college or the System Office.
- B. Each unclassified confidential employee is expected to share with the president or the Chancellor, as appropriate, his/her intent to engage in additional employment in order that a common understanding may be reached prior to the commencement of any such outside employment.
- C. Subject to availability of funds, the Board may authorize additional payment for services performed by full-time unclassified confidential employees provided that the nature and scope of such services lie outside the regular duties of the employee and constitute no more than ten hours per week.

## **SECTION 4 - RECORDS**

### **Section 4-10 Prescribed Files for Campus Confidential Employees**

Each college in the system of Community Colleges shall maintain three official files for each member of its unclassified confidential staff (a) a personnel file, (b) a professional file and (c) an application file.

#### **Section 4-10.1 Personnel File**

The personnel file shall include the following: (a) record of salary, increments, and change of status; (b) record of leaves of absence, vacations, and personal leave days; (c) sickness reports; (d) records of payments for insurance, retirement benefits, etc.; (e) record of accrued longevity and (f) general fiscal data. These records shall be accessible on a reasonable basis to the person concerned.

#### **Section 4-10.2 Professional File**

The president of the college is responsible for the confidentiality and control of the professional file for confidential staff under his/her supervision. The file shall include the following: (a) information relating to the unclassified confidential staff member's academic and professional accomplishments submitted by him/her or placed in the file at his/her request; (b) records generated by the college; (c) all reports resulting from formal evaluation of the unclassified confidential staff member's academic and professional performance; (d) memoranda of discussions between the unclassified confidential staff member and his/her supervisor, the president, or the Chancellor, relating to evaluation of the unclassified confidential staff member's professional performance; (e) transcripts of course work since employment; (f) materials submitted by the unclassified confidential staff member in connection with any request for promotion, sabbatical leave, or change of status; and (g) signed, written statements relating to the quality of service of the unclassified confidential staff member.

In the case of ©, (d), and (g) above, the unclassified confidential staff member shall be informed that the material has been placed in the file and may attach written comments.

#### **Section 4-10.3 Application File**

The application file, which is supervised by the president, contains materials requested by the college or the System Office or supplied by the unclassified confidential staff member in connection with his/her original employment, including confidential material solicited by the unclassified confidential staff member in support of the employment application. The material may be made available to appropriate personnel and committees for the purpose of initial selection. Confidential material may not be utilized in any subsequent decision affecting the individual's employment, except as the initial appointment may come into question.

#### **Section 4-10.4 The System Office of the Board Files**

Files for all unclassified confidential staff are maintained in the System Office of the Board. These files may contain materials submitted to the Board in support of appointment recommendations by the presidents. The files may also contain duplicates of all materials submitted in conjunction with Board actions, such as promotions, and duplicates of all appointment and reappointment notices. In addition, all correspondence between the System Office and the individuals may be a part of these files.

In any action taken or recommended by a president in which an appeal is made by an unclassified confidential staff person to the Board, a separate file relative thereto may be maintained. This file shall be accessible on a reasonable basis to the person concerned.

#### **Section 4-20 Prescribed Files for System Office Confidential Employees**

The following files are maintained for each System Office unclassified confidential employee: (a) a personnel file, and (b) a professional file.

##### **Section 4-20.1 Personnel File**

The personnel file shall be maintained by the Employee Relations section and shall include the following: (a) initial employment materials including application, resume and transcripts; (b) notices of appointment; (c) records of salary changes, change in status, leaves of absence; (d) records of vacation, personal leave, sick leave; (e) medical certificates; (f) records of payment for insurance, retirement benefits, etc.; record of accrued longevity and (g) general personnel or fiscal data. These records shall be available on a reasonable basis to the person concerned.

##### **Section 4-20.2 Professional File**

The Chancellor is responsible for the confidentiality and control of the professional file for confidential staff under his/her supervision. The file shall include the following: (a) information relating to the unclassified confidential staff member's academic and professional accomplishments submitted by him/her or placed in the file at his/her request; (b) records generated by the System Office; (c) all reports resulting from formal evaluation of the unclassified confidential staff member's academic and professional performance; (d) memoranda of discussions between the unclassified confidential staff member and his/her supervisor or the Chancellor relating to evaluation of the unclassified confidential staff member's professional performance; (e) transcripts of course work since employment; (f) materials submitted by the unclassified confidential staff member in connection with any request for promotion, sabbatical leave, or change of status; and (g) signed, written statements relating to the quality of service of the unclassified confidential staff member.

In the case of ©, (d), and (g) above, the unclassified staff member shall be informed that the material has been placed in the file and may attach written comments.

## **SECTION 5 - EVALUATION**

### **Section 5-10 Frequency**

Unclassified confidential staff shall be evaluated annually.

### **Section 5-20 Role of the Job Description in Evaluation**

The annual evaluation of unclassified confidential staff shall relate to the functional responsibility as defined by the job description and criteria specified in approved evaluation forms. Personnel are to be evaluated by the president, where appropriate. Positions not supervised by the president are to be evaluated by their supervisor.

Each unclassified confidential staff member should have a job description. Job descriptions are to be consistent with description established by the Board. Job descriptions should be reviewed annually. They may be modified to reflect college situations as requested by the president and approved by the Chancellor.

### **Section 5-30 Evaluation Forms**

There shall be uniform evaluation forms consistent with the following:

- A. Evaluation forms shall relate to the requirement of the position.
- B. Evaluation forms shall specify performance criteria.
- C. Evaluation forms are subject to the approval of the Board's Personnel Committee.
- D. Evaluation forms shall be uniform for each functional group.

## **SECTION 6 - ADVANCEMENT**

### **Section 6-10 Definition**

Advancement constitutes (a) appointment to a position or rank which involves increased responsibilities and/or competence and which affords compensation at a higher salary or (b) compensation at a higher salary, or (c) a one-time merit award.

### **Section 6-20 Eligibility**

Advancement is effected by the Board on recommendation of a president as concurred with by the Chancellor or on recommendation of the Chancellor for System Office staff. Advancement may be recommended either for increased responsibilities or an especially high level of service. Fulfillment of the minimal formal requirements for advancement to a higher rank and/or recommendation by a president or the Chancellor creates no right to advancement, which remains within the discretion of the Board.

### **Section 6-30 Salary**

Advancement may involve one-time, lump-sum merit awards, or may provide in base salary adjustment in recognition of individual's performance, as determined by the Board.

### **Section 6-40 Staff Participation**

It is the policy of the Board that the president's recommendation to the Board have the benefit of the advice of the immediate supervisor, if any other than the president, of the individual being considered for promotion.

### **Section 6-50 Merit Reserve Fund**

The Board shall endeavor to establish a reserve to support salary adjustments for increased responsibility or merit, consistent with the availability of funds.

## **SECTION 7 - BENEFITS**

### **Section 7-10 Vacation**

- A. Effective July 1, 1990, unclassified confidential personnel accrue vacation days at the rate of 1.93 per month of service which may be used as accrued.
- B. If an unclassified confidential staff member who has taken more vacation days than would have been accrued at the rate of 1.83 days per month terminates his/her employment prior to the expiration date of his/her appointment, the employer shall deduct from his/her pay the value of vacation days taken in excess of the amount accrued.
- C. The time of vacation days taken by unclassified confidential staff is subject to prior approval by the president or the Chancellor for System Office staff.
- D. Any unclassified confidential staff member leaving state service shall receive a lump-sum payment for accrued vacation time as prescribed by relevant State policy.
- E. All unclassified confidential staff members who have been notified of termination of their appointment are required to use all accumulated vacation leave prior to the expiration of the final appointment year, unless other arrangements are specifically authorized in writing by the college president or the Chancellor for System Office staff.
- F. Vacation days do not accrue during any month in which the unclassified confidential staff member is on leave of absence without salary for more than five days.
- G. The Board expects each confidential person to use at least two-thirds of vacation days earned each year for vacation since the intent of vacation days is to assure a certain number of days free from employment duties each year. No more than seven days may be carried over into the next calendar year unless for good cause as approved by the president or the Chancellor, as appropriate.
- H. Unclassified confidential employees may, subject to limitations noted in this section, accrue vacation up to a maximum of one hundred and twenty (120) days. Vacation leave does not accrue to the employee during any month the balance remains at one hundred and twenty (120) days.

### **Section 7-20 Sick Leave and Special Leave**

- A. Full time unclassified confidential staff members accrue sick leave for continuous service from the date of initial employment at the rate of one and one-quarter days per completed calendar month. No such leave accrues in any month in which an unclassified confidential staff member is on leave of absence without pay for more than five days.

Earned sick leave is granted, subject to the requirement for medical certification, to a professional staff member who is unable to perform requisite duties because of disability. An acceptable medical certification is required to substantiate a request for sick leave under the following conditions:

1. For any period of absence of more than five consecutive working days;
  2. In support of a request for sick leave during vacation.
- B. Special leave shall be granted for the following reasons: for dental, medical, or eye examination or treatment for which arrangements cannot be made outside of working hours; when presence at duty will expose others to contagious disease; in the event of death in the immediate family, when as much as three working days' leave with pay shall be granted (immediate family means husband, wife, father, mother, sister, brother, child, and any other relative who is domiciled in the professional staff member's household); if critical illness or severe injury in the immediate family creates an emergency which required the attendance or aid of the professional staff member, when as much as five working days' leave with pay in a calendar year shall be granted. Additionally, the president or the Chancellor may grant necessary time not to exceed in the aggregate a total of five working days' leave per calendar year to fulfill the obligations of going to, attending, and returning from funerals of persons other than members of the immediate family. The granting of special leave is contingent upon the availability of earned sick leave and is charged against sick leave.
- C. Upon retirement pursuant to Chapter 66 of Chapter 167a of the General Statutes, an unclassified confidential staff member shall be compensated at the rate of one-fourth of his/her salary for each day of sick leave standing to his/her credit to a maximum of 240 days as of his/her last day on the active payroll.
- D. In extenuating circumstances, the Chancellor may authorize use of accrued sick leave for special purposes in excess of the limitations but consistent with the definition of immediate family as noted in paragraph B., above.

#### **Section 7-20.1 Emergency Sick Leave**

The Chancellor may authorize staff contributions and utilization of up to one hundred (100) sick leave days in an appointment year in the case of catastrophic, or serious, extended long-term illness or injury for full-time, unclassified employees of the Board, consistent with the following:

1. Contributions of sick leave may be made by unclassified staff employed at the work site, not to exceed five sick days per staff member per appointment period;
2. No more than ten days of accrued leave (sick, vacation and personal leave) are available for use by the employee;

3. There is no evidence of abuse of sick leave;
4. There are no state benefits which offset the loss of salary such as workers compensation;
5. The employee has been employed full-time by the Board for at least two years; and,
6. An acceptable medical certificate is on file for the period of use of such sick leave;
7. The Chancellor may authorize such use full-time, unclassified employees who have been employed full-time for less than two year in the case of life-threatening or terminal illness.

#### **Section 7-30 Personal Leave Days**

In addition to the annual vacation, full-time unclassified confidential staff members serving in a permanent position shall be granted three days of personal leave of absence with pay in each calendar year. Such leave shall be for the purpose of conducting private affairs, including observance of religious holidays, and shall not be deducted from vacation or sick leave credits. Personal leave of absence days not taken by December 31 lapse and may not be preserved for use in the next calendar year.

#### **Section 7-40 Pro-ration of Leave for Part-Time Service**

A proportionate reduction in entitlement to personal leave, vacation leave and sick leave shall apply when unclassified personnel are appointed for twenty or more hours per week but less than full-time service or are granted partial leave of absence without pay.

#### **Section 7-50 Holidays**

Confidential staff members are eligible for holidays established by law. Confidential employees who are required to work on a holiday are entitled to equivalent time off.

#### **Section 7-60 Insurance Benefits**

Confidential staff members are eligible for insurance benefits generally available to State employees and/or as may be approved by the Board.

#### **Section 7-70 Professional Development**

The Board shall annually establish a professional development fund for each college and the System Office based on the total number of management and confidential personnel at each location.

#### **Section 7-80 Tuition Waivers**

Subject to procedures established by the Chancellor, unclassified confidential employees who work at least twenty (20) hours per week are eligible for waiver of the general fund tuition, application fee, program enrollment fee, college services fee and student activity fee at the twelve community colleges for unclassified confidential employees, their spouses and dependent children.

### **Section 7-90 Tuition Reimbursement**

- A. Confidential staff members are encouraged to maintain and expand their professional development throughout their years of service. This is particularly vital to meet the needs of an ever-changing student body and a commitment to the community. To this end, the Board provides tuition reimbursement to the confidential staff member wishing to engage in course work, within budgetary limitations.
- B. The Board authorizes each college president and the Chancellor for System Office staff to set aside in the annual college or System Office budget such funds, if any, as she/she may determine are available for reimbursement of tuition and fees at other colleges, subject to applicable policies and procedures established by the Board, and provided that no confidential staff member shall be eligible to receive such reimbursement for more than 12 semester hours or credit in a single year, and provided further than reimbursement for credit in excess of six hours per semester must be referred to the Chancellor for prior approval.

### **Section 7-100 Travel**

Within budgetary limits and subject to standard authorization procedure, unclassified confidential employees are eligible for meal reimbursement for out-of-state travel and for mileage reimbursement for use of personally owned vehicles. The Board will establish mean and mileage reimbursement rates as necessary.

### **Section 7-110 Retirement**

#### **Section 7-110.1 Notice of Retirement**

An unclassified confidential employee may retire, pursuant to Chapter 66 (State Employee Retirement System) or Chapter 167a (Retirement System for Teachers). When he/she decides to do so, notice of such intent should be given the president or Chancellor, as appropriate, at least three months in advance, if possible.

#### **Section 7-110.2 Retirement Annuities**

Group and individual retirement annuities may be made available on a voluntary basis to employees under the jurisdiction of the Board as provided in Section 5-264 of the General Statutes.

#### **Section 7-110.3 Deferred Compensation**

Unclassified confidential employees may elect to participate in the deferred compensation program available pursuant to the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes, Section 5-264a. The program provides, through payroll deduction, the set aside of income during peak earning years, which income is taxed upon receipt in retirement years at a lower tax rate. The funding vehicles available include: a fixed life insurance contract; a variable life insurance contract; a fixed annuity contract; and a variable annuity contract.

#### **Section 7-110.4 Emeritus Status**

Emeritus status may be awarded to a professional staff member by the Board upon recommendation of the president or Chancellor, as appropriate. Persons eligible for emeritus status must have retired from state service with at least fifteen years of service to the college/system. A president or the Chancellor may, however, request that the Board waive these minimum requirements in exceptional circumstances.

The following are the privileges and benefits of emeritus status: (1) formal announcement to professional staff and public; (2) separate listing in the college catalog; (3) placement on a select mailing list, including invitations to college functions and receipts of college publications; (4) invitation to participate in commencement exercises; and (5) use of the library on the same basis as the active professional staff. As appropriate, individuals granted emeritus status may also be afforded the benefits of staff parking and notification of and attendance at staff meetings with the right to participate but not vote.

#### **Section 7-110.5 Alternate Retirement Program**

Section 10-323e(d) of the General Statutes provides enabling legislation for the election of membership in an alternate retirement program. The alternate retirement program is administered by the Retirement Commission. The Commission has contracted with TIAA/CREF to provide the alternate retirement program for State employees.

#### **Section 7-110.6 Disclaimer**

This section of these policies attempts to state accurately retirement benefits available. It should not, however, be considered to constitute an authoritative statement of the retirement benefits provided by the State. Accordingly, confidential personnel are encouraged to review their retirement status with the Retirement Division, the State Teachers' Retirement Board, or their independent carrier.

#### **Section 7-120 Dependent Care Spending Account Program**

Unclassified confidential employees are eligible for participation in the Dependent Care Spending Account Program consistent with Public Act 90-292 and the related regulations established for the implementation of the Act. The Dependent Care Spending Account Program permits employees to defer a portion of their salary to a special account. Funds in the account may be used to reimburse the employee for expenses for dependent care consistent with the provisions of Section 129 of the Internal Revenue Code.

## **SECTION 8 - COMPENSATION**

The Board is supportive of recognizing individual growth and meritorious service of its confidential employees. In addition, it recognizes the need to provide increases in recognition of the cost-of-living consistent with legislative appropriations and priorities established by the Board.

### **Section 8-10 Minimum Salaries/Salary Ranges**

Minimum salaries and/or salary ranges are established by the Board for each classification.

### **Section 8-20 Longevity**

Unclassified confidential employees continue to be eligible to receive lump-sum semi-annual payments during the months of April and October in addition to base salary. The payments commence with completion of ten (10) years of service, with increases following completion of 15, 20 and 25 years of service. Longevity schedules are established by the Board and are linked to the minimum salary established for the employees' classification.

Unclassified confidential employees who retire shall receive, during the month immediately following retirement, a prorated payment based upon the proportion of the six-month period served prior to the effective date of retirement.

## **SECTION 9 - LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

### **Section 9-10 General Provisions**

The following provisions apply to the leave of absence provided for in Sections 9-30, 9-30.1, 9-30.2

- A. During the period of any leave specified above, and unclassified confidential staff member may make arrangements to continue contributions and payment to the state retirement system and the teachers' retirement system, state health benefits, and group life insurance in accordance with appropriate state policy.
- B. In the case of any leave specified above, there must be a prior written agreement between the president (or Chancellor) and the unclassified confidential staff member as to the individual's responsibilities to the college (or the Board) during and after the leave and as to any conditions for such leave specified by the president (or the Chancellor). Any such agreement shall be subject to the conditions of the leave specified by the Board, which conditions may delete, modify, or add to the terms of said agreement.
- C. The unclassified confidential staff member who is granted a leave has an obligation to assist the administration in planning for continuity in the college's program.

### **Section 9-20 Leave for Professional Development**

- A. Leave for professional development may consist of a full-time leave of absence with full or partial pay or released time. This leave may be granted for the purpose of study.
- B. Unclassified confidential staff members are eligible for this leave, including released time, after one year of service on a full-time standard appointment, subject to the following conditions:
  - 1. The applicant's professional duties permit his/her absence for the period of time requested.
  - 2. The leave is of value to the applicant and to the college or System Office, as appropriate.

### **Section 9-30 Leave of Absence Without Salary**

- A. Leave of absence without salary may be granted by the Board for a period not to exceed two years. Unclassified confidential staff members are eligible for leave of absence without salary after two years of full-time service, except that a leave for educational advancement may be granted after one year of service. The Chancellor may also grant leave of absence without salary for medical reasons to part-time employees and to full-time employees with less than two years of service.
- B. The terms and conditions of such a leave of absence are to be agreed to in writing as a condition of the leave.

- C. Unclassified confidential staff may be permitted to return at a time agreeable to the president or the Chancellor and the employee, taking into consideration any employment obligations to substitute staff.
- D. In case of an employee holding a terminal appointment, a leave shall not extend beyond, and provisions for reemployment shall not apply beyond the termination date of the appointment.
- E. Approval of medical and maternity leaves in excess of five days are contingent upon receipt of an acceptable medical certificate.

### **Section 9-30.1 Medical and Family Leaves**

Leave without salary shall be granted to unclassified confidential employees for the purposes of medical leave or family leave consistent with Connecticut General Statutes 5-248a and related regulations.

- A. Medical leave is unpaid leave of absence up to twenty-four weeks (24) in any two-year period granted upon the serious illness of an employee or for disabilities caused or contributed to by pregnancy, abortion, miscarriage, childbirth and recovery therefrom. This leave is in addition to use of accrued vacation and sick leave and is contingent upon submission of an acceptable medical certificate.
- B. Family leave is unpaid leave of absence up to twenty-four weeks(24) in any two-year period granted (1) upon the birth or adoption of a child by an employee, or (2) upon the serious illness of a child, spouse or parent of an employee. Family leave granted upon the serious illness of a child, spouse or parent is contingent upon submission of a physician's statement of diagnosis and prognosis.
- C. The benefits associated with medical and family leaves are as follows:
  - 1. The same or equivalent position shall be available to the employee at the conclusion of the authorized leave.
  - 2. Upon return from leave, the employee shall be entitled to all accumulated service credit for seniority, retirement, fringe benefits and salary placement.
  - 3. For the period of the medical or family leave pursuant to section A and B above, for a maximum of twenty-four weeks (24) in any two-year period, the Board shall continue the State's portion of health insurance benefits as provided in Connecticut General Statutes 5-248a. If the employee desires continuation of other insurance, the employee shall notify the employer and shall remit that portion of the premium the employee would have been required to contribute had he/she not taken the leave.

### **Section 9-30.2 Other Leaves**

The Board may grant other leaves of absence without salary for up to two (2) years.

**Section 9-40 Military Leave**

- A. Unclassified confidential staff members who have served in a full-time position for more than six months and who have left the employ of the community colleges in order to serve in the armed services are eligible for reinstatement according to the provisions of Section 5-225© of the General Statutes.
  
- B. An unclassified confidential staff member who is member of the armed forced of the State or of any reserve component of the armed forces of the United States and is required to undergo active duty or field training therein shall be entitled to a leave of absence with pay for a period not exceeding three calendar weeks of such active duty or field training. This leave is in addition to his/her annual vacation.

**Section 9-50 Jury Duty/Civil Leave**

Unclassified confidential employees who are summoned to court to perform jury duty or who are subpoenaed to attend court or board hearings to testify in matters in which they have no personal or pecuniary interest, shall suffer no loss of salary or accrued leave time, but shall be required to remit to the employer any sums of money received in compensation for such duty or attendance, less mileage expenses. Unclassified confidential employees are expected to notify the president or Chancellor, as appropriate, of jury duty or civil obligations as soon as possible.