



OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Traci L. Anderson
Director

MEMORANDUM

Thursday, December 28, 2023

TO: Department and Office Directors

FROM: Traci L. Anderson, Director, Office of Human Resources

SUBJECT: 2023 Compensatory Time and Annual Leave Carryover

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Traci L. Anderson", is written over the "FROM:" line.

This memorandum outlines the various rules and limitations, in accordance with the MCGEO, FOP and IAFF Collective Bargaining Agreements and the Personnel Regulations, relating to the accrual and carryover of excess compensatory time and annual leave. Please ensure that all employees are aware of this information. **This leave year SharePoint site, www.montgomerycountymd.gov/leavecarryover, will open for employees to submit their requests on January 31, 2024.**

Excess Annual Leave for 2023

Per Section 16-8(d) of the Personnel Regulations the CAO must determine annually, based on the budget and the availability of funds in each operating department, whether to allow eligible employees in all departments to cash out any excess annual leave. Section 14.9 of the MCGEO Agreement, Section 18J of the FOP Agreement, and Section 6.8 of the IAFF Agreement all contain similar provisions.

After careful consideration of the County's fiscal situation, the Chief Administrative Officer has not approved a cash payout for employees with excess annual leave at the end of 2023.

Annual Leave Carryover Guidance

If an employee has accumulated annual leave in excess of the authorized maximum at the end of the 2023 leave year, the employee may elect to carryover their 2023 excess annual leave to the 2024 leave year if the employee was not able to use the annual leave in 2023 because of special circumstances, workload demands, or if a supervisor denied the employee's request to use excess leave. Employees who carried over excess annual leave from the previous leave year (January 2,

2022, through December 31, 2022) must use it by January 13, 2024, or the leave will be automatically converted to sick leave.

To carryover excess annual leave, employees must submit a request by going to www.montgomerycountymd.gov/leavecarryover by **February 21, 2024** for their department director/designee to consider for approval. Employees will receive an email confirmation when the request is submitted and an email notification when the request is approved or denied. Department approvers may submit a request on behalf of employees who have limited access to a computer. Employees' leave requests must be approved by department approvers by **March 6, 2024**.

The approved carryover amount will be first transferred to the employee's sick leave balance that is visible on the pay slip for on **February 9, 2024**, but later added back to their annual leave balance on the pay slip dated **April 19, 2024**, which will be visible in MCtime on **April 15, 2024**.

Compensatory Time Leave Carryover Guidance

The 2023 leave year concludes with the biweekly payroll reporting period that ends on January 13, 2024. Excess compensatory time is defined as compensatory time hours earned by an employee that exceeds 80 hours at the end of the leave year. Full-time and part-time employees are subject to the same 80-hour threshold for excess compensatory time. Employees who carried over excess compensatory time from the previous leave year (January 2, 2022, through December 31, 2022) must use this excess compensatory time by the end of the 2023 leave year, January 13, 2024.

Please note that any compensatory time earned in the last full pay period of the leave year (December 31, 2023 through January 13, 2024) will be reflected in the total compensatory time earned on the February 9, 2024 pay slip or visible in MCtime on January 22, 2024.

Compensatory Leave Supplemental hours (Comp Leave Supp) are considered separate from regular earned compensatory time. Since Comp Leave Supp hours may be carried over each year, these hours are not included in the end of the leave year process for compensatory time. Employees are not entitled to any pay for Comp Leave Supp hours at either the end of the leave year or at separation from County employment.

Non-Exempt Unrepresented and MCGEO Local 1994 Employees

Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), non-exempt employees with compensatory time balances in excess of 80 hours at the end of the leave year will be paid for excess compensatory hours over 80, unless the non-exempt employee submits written notice to the Office of Human Resources (OHR) to carry over their excess compensatory time from the 2023 leave year to the 2024 leave year. The notice must be submitted electronically at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/leavecarryover by **February 21, 2024**. The FLSA does not permit the transfer of excess compensatory time to sick leave for non-exempt employees.

FLSA Exempt Unrepresented and MCGEO and Employees

Employees designated as exempt under FLSA and have compensatory time balances in excess of 80 hours at the end of the leave year, will have the excess compensatory time hours transferred to sick leave at the end of the leave year. The transfer will appear on the pay slip of **February 9, 2024**.

Exempt employees who wish to carryover excess compensatory time from the 2022 leave year to the 2023 leave year should submit a request to their Department/Office Director for approval by **February 21, 2024**. Employees should submit their request to: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/leavecarryover.

Employees will receive an email confirmation when the request is submitted and an email notification when the request is approved or denied. Department approvers may submit a request on behalf of employees who have no or limited access to a computer. Employees' leave carryover request must be approved by Department approvers by **March 6, 2024**.

Department/Office Directors should approve carryover of excess compensatory time only if it was demonstrated that the employee was unable to reduce such time to 80 hours due to emergency or special workload considerations.

The approved carryover amount will be first transferred to your sick leave balance that is visible on the pay slip for **February 9, 2024**, but later added back to your compensatory leave balance on the pay slip dated **April 19, 2024**, which will be visible in MCtime on **April 15, 2024**.

Fraternal Order of Police, Montgomery County Lodge, 35, Inc. (FOP)

A FOP bargaining unit employee who has a compensatory time balance in excess of 80 hours at the end of the leave year (**January 13, 2024**) may elect to be paid for the excess hours by the first pay period following **April 19, 2024** or to carry over the balance for one year. Employees who elect to carryover their compensatory time balance should submit their leave carryover request by **February 21, 2024** to: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/leavecarryover

Employees will receive an email confirmation when the request is submitted and an email notification when the request is approved or denied. If a leave carryover request is not submitted, employees with excess leave balance in excess of 80 hours will be paid for the excess hours on **April 19, 2024**.

International Association of Firefighters, Local 1664 (IAFF) Employees

IAFF bargaining unit employees with compensatory time balances in excess of 80 hours at the end of the leave year (96 hours for an employee assigned to a 2,496-hour work year and 84 hours for an employee assigned to a 2,184-hour work year) may elect to receive payment for excess compensatory time to be paid on the pay date of **April 19, 2024**.

Employees may elect to carry over excess compensatory time from the 2023 leave year to the 2024 leave year by submitting their leave carryover request electronically at

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/leavecarryover by **February 21, 2024**. Department approvers may submit a request on behalf of employees who have no access or limited access to a computer.

Excess Carryover Electronic Submission Information and Online Guides

The instructional guide for requesting excess annual leave and compensatory time carryover is provided <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcg/resourceguide>. Employees must submit their excess annual leave and compensatory time request electronically by **February 21, 2024** via: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/leavecarryover

Please note that requests for compensatory time and annual leave carryover submitted after the deadline will not be approved. The leave year Sharepoint site will open for employees to submit their requests on **January 31, 2024**. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact leaveyear@montgomerycountymd.gov.

cc: Amanda Hardy-Konkus, ERP Project Manager
HR Liaisons
FIN MCtime
FIN Payroll
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SEAAs