

SICK TIME POLICY

1. Scope

1.1 This policy applies to all Albert Einstein College of Medicine employees who work more than 80 hours within a calendar year (January 1 – December 31), and who are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement (i.e. 1199 SEIU and NYSNA). This policy does not apply to students who work under Federal Work Study programs or individuals on qualified scholarships.

2. Purpose

2.1 Albert Einstein College of Medicine recognizes that employees will, from time to time, need to take time off from work to address medical needs. Albert Einstein College of Medicine's Sick Time Policy incorporates the provisions of the New York City's Earned Sick Time Act.

3. Accruing Sick Days

3.1 The accrual of sick time begins once an employee has completed 120 calendar days of active employment and is retroactive from their date of hire.

3.2 Full time employees accrue sick time at the rate of one day per month worked (i.e. 12 days per year).

3.3 Part time employees accrue sick time on a pro-rated basis.

3.4 Student employees, temporary employees and adjunct faculty members, accrue sick time at the rate of 1 hour for every 30 hours worked, up to a maximum of 40 hours of sick time per calendar year.

3.5 Employees may accumulate up to 120 days of sick time for their own illness, injury or health condition.

4. Utilizing Sick Days

4.1 After 120 calendar days from commencement of employment, an employee may use paid sick time as it is accrued. Paid sick time may not be used prior to accrual.

4.2 Accrued sick time may be used for an employee's own illness, injury or health condition, which requires care, treatment, preventative medical care or diagnosis.

4.3 Up to a maximum of 40 hours of accrued sick time per calendar year, may be used for the following:

- *A family member's illness, injury or health condition, which requires care, treatment, preventative medical care or diagnosis. For this purpose, family members are defined as an employee's child (biological, adopted or foster child, legal ward, child of an employee*

- standing in loco parentis), spouse, domestic partner, parent, sibling (half, adopted or step-sibling), grandchild, grandparent, or the child or parent of an employee's spouse or domestic partner;*
- *Closure of an employee's place of business by order of a public official due to a public health emergency;*
 - *Care for a child whose school or childcare provider has been closed by order of a public official due to a public health emergency.*

4.4 If, within a calendar year, an employee has utilized 40 hours of their sick time for reasons outlined in section 4.3, their remaining sick time for that calendar year, may only be for the employee's own illness, injury or health condition.

4.5 Fraud, misuse or abuse of sick time under this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

5. Planned Sick Days (e.g. Medical/Dental Appointments)

5.1 If an employee plans to use sick time for a medical or dental appointment in accordance with this policy, they should inform their supervisor or department at least 7 days in advance (except when emergency treatment is needed). Failure to provide 7 days' notice may result in denial of the request for paid sick time.

5.2 When informing the supervisor or department of the planned sick time absence, the employee must specify whether it is in relation to themselves, or that of a family member (as defined in section 4.3). Employees are not required to specify the nature of the injury, illness or health condition.

6. Unplanned Sick Time (e.g. Unexpected Emergency)

6.1 If sick time is needed due to an unplanned situation (e.g. an unexpected emergency), the employee should follow their usual call out protocols. If this is not possible, they should ensure they communicate as soon as possible with their supervisor.

6.2 When informing the supervisor of the unplanned sick time, the employee must specify if it is in relation to themselves, or that of a family member (as defined in section 4.3). Employees are not required to specify the nature of the injury, illness or health condition.

7. Sick Time & FMLA

7.1 Extended sick leave runs concurrently with leave taken under the Family and Medical Leave Act. Please refer to the [FMLA Policy](#) for further information.

8. Unused Sick Days

8.1 Accrued but unused sick time will carry over from one calendar year to the next and may be accrued to a maximum of 120 days. However, employees may only use a maximum of 40 hours of sick time per calendar year for reasons specified in section 4.3.

8.2 If an employee ceases active employment, any accrued but unused sick time will not be paid out upon termination. Terminated employees are not entitled to a reimbursement of unused accrued sick time.

9. Documentation for Sick Days

9.1 For sick time absences of 3 or more consecutive work days under this policy, Albert Einstein College of Medicine may require reasonable documentation signed by a licensed health care provider indicating the need for the amount of sick time taken. Employees are not required to specify the nature of their own or their family member's injury, illness or health condition, unless requested in connection with concurrent leave under another applicable policy, e.g. FMLA.

9.2 Failure to provide requested documentation may result in denial of the employee's request for paid sick time and such absence may be considered unauthorized.

10. Retaliation

10.1 Albert Einstein College of Medicine and its supervisors cannot retaliate against employees for requesting or using sick time.

10.2 If an employee feels that retaliation has occurred, they should contact the Human Resources Department immediately to report the matter.

11. Record Keeping

11.1 Employee use of sick time is documented and retained by the employee's department.

11.2 When an employee takes sick time, the department will document the reason as sick time either for (1) the employee, or (2) the employee's family (as outlined in section 4.3). These records will be retained for at least 3 years, in compliance with the law.

11.3 All health related information must be kept confidential unless the employee permits disclosure of their information or disclosure is required by law.

11.4 Departments using the Kronos timekeeping system must use the pay code, 'Sick Family' if an employee states the sick time is for the employee's family (as outlined in section 4.3). Departments and Academic areas that are not using Kronos for timekeeping, must track (manually or otherwise) the accrual and use of sick time reasons, under this law, for all faculty (including adjunct) who meet the eligibility requirements. These records will be retained for at least 3 years, in compliance with the law.

12. Contact & Additional Information

Benefits Office:

(718) 430-2547

benefits@einstein.yu.edu

[FMLA Policy](#)