The purpose of the State Personnel Board Rules and Director’s Administrative Procedures is to establish a comprehensive system of rules and procedures for employees within the state personnel system. In order to distinguish the Board from the Director’s Procedures, rules promulgated by the State Personnel Board are noted as “Board Rules”. Rules adopted by the Board and procedures adopted by the Director require the formal rulemaking process defined in the Administrative Procedures Act.

Pursuant to § 24-50-101(3)(b), C.R.S., it is the duty of the State Personnel Board to provide fair and timely resolution of the cases before it. Pursuant to § 24-50-101(3)(c), C.R.S., it is the duty of the State Personnel Director to establish the general criteria for adherence to the merit principles and for fair treatment of individuals within the state personnel system.

Preamble

Unless otherwise noted in a specific provision, the entire body of State Personnel Board Rules were repealed and new permanent rules were adopted by the State Personnel Board on April 19, 2005, pursuant to a Statement of Basis and Purpose dated April 19, 2005. The entire body of the State Personnel Director's Administrative Procedures were repealed and new permanent procedures were adopted by the State Personnel Director on May 5, 2005, pursuant to a Statement of Basis and Purpose dated May 5, 2005. Such rules and procedures were effective July 1, 2005.

This version reflects changes to Chapter 5, Time Off that became effective on August 7, 2023. These changes are additions to the Director’s Administrative Procedures, modifying Sick Leave in Chapter 5, Time Off. These changes also create the alignment of the Director’s Administrative Procedures with current law SB 23-017.
Chapter 5    Time Off

Authority for rules promulgated in Chapter 5, Time Off, is found in:

State of Colorado Constitution Article XII, Section 13, The Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Family Care Act (FCA), Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), commonly called the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Healthy Families and Workplace Act, the Public Health Emergency Whistleblower Act and 26 U.S.C. 63.


Accrued Paid Leave

5-4.  Annual leave is for an employee’s personal needs and use is subject to the approval of the appointing authority. The appointing authority may establish periods when annual leave will not be allowed, or shall be taken, based on business necessity. These periods cannot create a situation where the employee does not have a reasonable opportunity to use requested leave that will be subject to forfeiture. If the department cancels approved leave that results in forfeiture, the forfeited hours shall be paid before the end of the fiscal year. (5/1/10)

A.  Due to the declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor, as defined in the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, if annual leave was denied, canceled or the employee was not given reasonable opportunity to use the requested annual leave, resulting in annual leave being subject to forfeiture under rule, up to eighty (80) hours of leave over the maximum accrual allotment may be carried over to the next fiscal year in lieu of payment. The over accrued annual leave amount (up to eighty (80) hours) will roll over to the next fiscal year on July 1 and will be available to the employee to use. This amount will not carry over for a second fiscal year. Any annual leave hours over the maximum accrual amount not carried over in this Rule 5-4.(A) and subject to forfeiture shall be paid out to the employee before the end of the fiscal year. (08/01/2020)

5-5.  Sick leave is for health and care reasons only, including mental or physical illness, injury, a health condition, diagnostic and preventative examinations, treatment, and recovery. Accrued sick leave may be used for the health and care needs of:

A.  The employee or the employee's family members (related by blood, adoption, marriage, or civil union) including a child to whom the employee stands in loco parentis or a person who stood in loco parentis to the employee when the employee was a minor, domestic partners, in-laws, step relatives and for a person for whom the employee is responsible for providing or arranging health or safety-related care. Special consideration will also be given to any other person whose association with the employee is similar to a family member. (01/01/2021)

B.  An injured military service member as established under Rule 5-20 (F), legal dependent, or a person in the household for whom the employee is the primary caregiver. (04/01/2020)

C.  Appointing authorities may use discretion to send employees home for an illness or injury that impacts the employee's ability to perform the job or the safety of others.
1. Sick leave shall be charged first;

2. Annual leave shall be charged if sick leave is exhausted; then

3. Unpaid leave if both annual and sick leave are exhausted. (01/01/2021)

D. Employees shall provide the State's authorized form (or other official document containing the same information) from a health care provider for an absence of more than three (3) consecutive full working days for any health reason or the use of sick leave shall be denied. Appointing authorities have the discretion to require the State's authorized form (or other official document containing the same information) for absences of less than three (3) days when the appointing authority has a reasonable basis for suspecting abuse of sick leave. (02/2017)

1. The completed official form or document shall be returned within fifteen (15) days from the appointing authority’s request. (02/2017)

2. Failure to provide the State's authorized form (or other official document containing the same information) may result in corrective/disciplinary action. Appointing authorities have the discretion to approve other forms of leave if sick leave is denied. (02/2017)

E. When an employee or employee’s family member is a victim of domestic abuse, stalking, sexual assault, harassment or any other crime related to domestic violence and needs to seek medical attention, mental health care or other counseling, or victim services including legal services or relocation. (05/15/2022)

F. When the employee needs to care for a family member whose school or place of care has been closed due to inclement weather, loss of power, loss of heating, loss of water, or other unexpected occurrence or event that results in the closure of the family member’s school or place of care. Or the employee needs to evacuate their place of residence due to inclement weather, loss of power, loss of heating, loss of water, or other unexpected occurrence or event that results in the need to evacuate the employee’s residence. (08/07/2023)

G. When the employee needs to grieve, attend funeral services or a memorial or to deal with financial and legal matters that arise after the death of a family member. (08/07/2023)