

ARTICLE 44. University Benefits

A. General Conditions

Employees in this unit are eligible to participate in a number of benefit programs generally available to non-management, non-supervisory, non-confidential, non-academic employees of the University who are not exclusively represented. The University health and welfare plans provide an annual open enrollment period during which eligible employees may elect to change plan or coverage options. Open enrollment provides an opportunity for employees to choose among plans due to changes in circumstances of the employees, changes in the coverage and costs of each plan, and changes in plan availability which may change from year to year.

The current benefits are summarized briefly in this Article. However, the Union understands and agrees that the University may, at its option, alter its health and welfare programs and/or retirement system plans (UCRS). Such alterations include, but are not limited to altering eligibility criteria, establishing new coverage, altering or deleting current coverage, altering employee and University rates of contribution, or changing the carrier for established programs. In the event the University makes such alterations, the changes will apply to employees eligible for benefits within the unit in the same manner they apply to other eligible staff employees at the same campus. The sole exception to the above shall be 1) any alterations proposed by the University which affect only bargaining unit employees, and 2) any alterations proposed by the University which reduce the UCRS retirement benefits of bargaining unit employees. In such cases, the University agrees to meet and confer with respect to the proposed changes.

1. The University's maximum monthly rates of contribution for bargaining unit employees who are eligible for and elect to enroll in a health plan shall be the same as the contribution rates for such plans for other staff employees.
2. Costs that exceed current University contributions, and employee costs for plans to which the University does not contribute, are to be paid by bargaining unit members, normally through payroll deduction.
3. In the event the current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) expires, the parties agree that the terms of this Article 44, Health & Welfare & Retirement Benefits, preserves the status quo and will continue in full force and effect unless otherwise expressly modified by mutual agreement of both parties.

B. Enumeration of University Benefits

1. For informational purposes only, a brief outline of benefit programs in effect on the date the Agreement is found below. The Union understands and agrees that the descriptions contained in this Article do not completely describe the coverage or eligibility requirements for each plan.
2. Specific eligibility and benefits under each of the various plans are governed entirely by the terms of the applicable Plan Documents, custodial agreements, University of California Group Insurance Regulations, group insurance contracts, and state and federal laws. Employees in an ineligible classification are excluded from coverage, regardless of appointment percent and average regular paid time. For details on specific eligibility for each program, see the applicable documents, agreements, regulations, or contracts.

C. Health Benefits

1. Medical Program – A variety of Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and fee-for-service plans are available to cover eligible employees and their eligible family members. Choice of plans may vary from location to location. Eligible part-time employees appointed and paid by the

University to work a specified minimum appointment and average regular paid time may be covered by the CORE major medical plan. The plan is available to the employee and eligible family members.

2. Dental Program – Dental plans are available to eligible employees. Employees may cover themselves and their eligible family members.
3. Vision Program – A vision plan is available to eligible employees. Employees may cover themselves and their eligible family members.

D. University of California Retirement System

1. University of California Retirement Plan - Eligible employees covered by this Agreement shall be covered by the University of California Retirement Plan (UCRP), a defined benefit plan. The level of required contributions to UCRP is determined annually by the Plan actuary and the Regents.
 - a. UCRP Tier Two Benefits- The Tier Two membership classification of UCRP was closed on July 1, 1990 and is only available on a continuing basis to active UCRP members who previously elected Tier Two.
2. University of California Retirement Savings Program
This program consists of the
 - voluntary UC Tax-Deferred 403(b) Plan,
 - voluntary UC Deferred Compensation 457(b) Plan,
 - voluntary UC Defined Contribution After-Tax Plan, and
 - mandatory UC Defined Contribution Pre-Tax Plan.

This program offers a select group of “Core Funds” that are monitored by the UC Office of the Treasurer. The “Core Funds” include two single, diversified investment options, seven primary asset class options, and four specialized asset class options. Additional investment options are available through a self-directed brokerage account.

Account and recordkeeping services for the UC Retirement Savings Program are provided by a vendor contracted with the University.

Participation in the voluntary 403(b) Plan, 457(b) Plan, and Defined Contribution—After-Tax Plan is available to all University employees except students who normally work less than 20 hours per week.

Participation in the Defined Contribution—Pre-Tax Plan requires mandatory employee contributions.

- Active members of the University of California Retirement Plan (UCRP, the defined benefit plan, have their contributions redirected to the Defined Contribution—Pre-Tax Plan. Redirection is subject to annual Regental review. Although payroll reductions default into the UC Savings Fund, members may invest their contributions in the “Core Funds”.
- Eligible employees who are not active members of a UC-sponsored defined benefit plan make mandatory contributions to the Defined Contribution—Pre-Tax Plan in lieu of paying the Old Age, Survivor and Disability Insurance (OASDI) portion of Social Security taxes. Although payroll reductions default into the UC Savings Fund, members may invest their contributions in the “Core Funds”.

E. Life Insurance

1. University-Paid – Two University-Paid life insurance plans—Basic Life and Core Life—provide basic life insurance coverage. The amount varies, depending on the employee’s appointment rate and average regular paid time. Eligible employees are automatically covered by the plan for which they qualify.
2. Supplemental - Optional personal life insurance and dependent life insurance are available and may be purchased by eligible employees.

F. Other Insurance

1. Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance – eligible employees may purchase Optional AD&D insurance. A variety of coverages and amounts are available to cover employees and their eligible family members.
2. Business Travel Accident Insurance
Employees who are traveling on official University business are covered by \$100,000 of accidental death and a scheduled dismemberment insurance.
3. Disability Insurance
 - a. Short-Term Disability Insurance – Short-Term disability insurance is available to eligible employees. Eligible employees are automatically covered by the plan.
 - b. Supplemental Disability Insurance - Optional supplemental disability insurance may be purchased by eligible employees. This optional coverage augments the Short-Term Disability Insurance referenced above, and provides Long Term Disability coverage.
4. Legal Expense Insurance Plan – A legal expense insurance plan may be purchased by eligible employees. The plan is employee-paid through payroll deductions.
5. Auto/Homeowner Insurance – Individual auto and home insurance policies are available which may be purchased by eligible employees through payroll deduction.

G. Other Benefits

1. Tax Effective Salary Reduction Programs
 - a. Retirement Tax Savings Plan – Required monthly participant contributions to the DC Plan Pretax Account are automatically deducted from gross pay before federal and state taxes are calculated.
 - b. Tax Savings on Insurance Premiums (TIP) – Employees enrolled in certain benefit plans are automatically enrolled in TIP, unless the employee makes an election to withdraw. After the University contribution (if any) is applied, the net insurance premiums are deducted from gross pay before federal and state taxes.
2. Dependent Care Reimbursement Account (DepCare) – DepCare is available to eligible employees and allows employees to pay for eligible dependent care expenses on a pre-tax, salary reduction basis.
3. Health Care Reimbursement Account (HCRA) – The Health Care Reimbursement Account is available to eligible employees and allows them to pay for eligible health care expenses not covered by the employee’s medical, dental, or vision plans on a pretax, salary reduction basis.
4. U.S. Savings Bonds – Through payroll deductions, investments can be made in United States Savings I Bonds or Series EE Bonds.

Alternate Retirement Plans – Employees covered by alternate retirement plans are subject to that plans rules and regulations, and not subject to UCRP coverage.