



EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Revised 2020

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Section 1

Introduction

[Welcome Message](#)

Welcome to California State University San Marcos Corporation (CSUSM Corporation or “the Organization”). We hope your employment with CSUSM Corporation will prove rewarding, enjoyable, and professionally challenging. CSUSM Corporation, formerly the University Auxiliary and Research Services Corporation, was incorporated in 1989 as a non-profit auxiliary organization of California State University San Marcos (CSUSM). CSUSM Corporation plays an important role in the campus community, existing to provide support, advance the purposes and goals, and meet the evolving needs of the University. CSUSM Corporation’s administrative offices are located at 288 Campus Way, Suite 670, San Marcos, CA 92078. At our administrative offices, we provide services in the areas of Sponsored Programs administration, Human Resources and Payroll Services, and management of Commercial Enterprises, including childcare services, campus dining services, and bookstore operations. Additionally, CSUSM Corporation maintains a website at www.csusm.edu/corp which provides information about employment opportunities, benefits information, policies, procedures, forms, and other general information about CSUSM Corporation.

[How to use this Handbook](#)

This Handbook will assist you in finding answers to any questions that you may have, and to familiarize you with CSUSM Corporation’s philosophy, guidelines, and employee benefits. Please read it carefully and keep it for future reference. Remember, this Handbook is intended only to provide a summary of the policies and benefits of CSUSM Corporation. It is not intended to create a contract of employment, expressed or implied, or to modify CSUSM Corporation’s rights or your rights to terminate employment at will at any time for any reason.

Your immediate supervisor will be a major source of information, although we also encourage you to seek clarification of any policy or procedure by discussing it with your department head or with the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources. We welcome your interest and we will do our best to give you a prompt response.

[Right to Revise](#)

This Employee Handbook contains the employment policies and practices of CSUSM Corporation in effect at the time of publication. All previously issued handbooks and any inconsistent policy statements or memoranda are superseded by this Handbook.

Although this handbook is intended to be comprehensive, it cannot answer every question or anticipate every situation. Due to ongoing changes in applicable governmental regulations and the needs of our organization to retain necessary operational flexibility in the administration of policies and procedures, CSUSM Corporation reserves the right to revise, modify, delete, or add to

any and all policies, procedures, work rules, or benefits stated in this handbook or in any other document, except for the policy of at-will employment. However, at will employment status can only be changed in writing and must be signed by the Executive Director of CSUSM Corporation.

Employees will be notified of any written changes to this handbook and the changes will be updated electronically and posted on the CSUSM Corporation website: www.csusm.edu/corp. No oral statements or representations can in any way alter the provisions of this handbook, and nothing in this Employee Handbook or in any other personnel document, including benefit plan descriptions, creates or is intended to create a promise or representation of continued employment for any employee.

Mission Statement

CSUSM Corporation is a nonprofit, auxiliary organization that advances the purposes and goals and meets the evolving needs of the University through its commercial enterprises, sponsored projects, business services and financial management.

Organizational Values

CSUSM Corporation believes in and is committed to the following:

- The mission of Cal State San Marcos
- The student and the educator
- The public good
- Accountability to the public
- Compliance with the law
- Respect for the worth and dignity of individuals
- Inclusiveness and social justice
- Respect for pluralism and diversity
- Transparency, integrity and honesty
- Responsible stewardship of resources
- Commitment to excellence and to maintaining the public trust
- Collaboration with others
- Ensuring our own competence through continual learning

Code of Ethics

- **Personal and Professional Integrity** - All employees, board members, principle investigators, project directors and volunteers of CSUSM Corporation to act with honesty, integrity and openness in all their dealings as representatives of the organization. We promote a working environment that values respect, fairness and integrity.
- **Mission Fulfillment** – CSUSM Corporation has a clearly stated mission and purpose, approved by the Board of Directors to support the mission of Cal State San Marcos. We are mission-focused and maintain our relevance by meeting needs in a changing educational environment.
- **Responsible Governance** - CSUSM Corporation has an active and effective governing body that is responsible for setting the mission and strategic direction of the organization and oversight of the finances, operations and policies of the organization. Governance transparency is key to our operation.

- **Legal Compliance** - CSUSM Corporation is knowledgeable of, stays current with, and complies with all applicable laws and regulations.
- **Responsible Stewardship** - Maintaining effective governance and management, CSUSM Corporation generates adequate resources, manages resources effectively, supports and recognizes its volunteers, and appropriately compensates staff. CSUSM Corporation abides by clear conflict of interest policies and avoids abuse of power. We exercise due diligence in all program and fiscal matters including the generation, management and acceptance of funds.
- **Fiscal Integrity** - CSUSM Corporation accepts funding from public and private agencies, corporations and donors. Funds are utilized to further the mission of Cal State San Marcos and are expended consistent with the intent of the donors.
- **Openness and Disclosure** - CSUSM Corporation provides comprehensive, accurate and timely information to the campus community, the public, and the media and is responsive, in a timely manner, to reasonable requests for information.
- **Diversity and Inclusiveness** - Among our staff, Board members, volunteers, vendors and consultants, and in our community, we advocate the value of diversity and inclusiveness, and work to expand our understanding and proficiency. We attend to the dynamics of difference, knowing that multiple viewpoints and shared solutions are essential to effective actions. Diversity and inclusiveness enrich our environment and provide the building blocks for our future growth and prosperity.
- **Promotion of Learning** - We are an organization that promotes lifelong learning and supports the mission of a major public university. CSUSM Corporation is committed to improving program and organizational effectiveness. We endeavor to be among the very best at what we do.
- **Quality** - We strive for and achieve excellence in all aspects of our organization and in the services we provide by regularly assessing the total organization and its outcomes and impacts on an ongoing basis.

Employment Policies

Equal Employment Opportunity

CSUSM Corporation is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunity with regard to an individual's race (including physical and cultural characteristics associated with race), color, creed, sex, gender including gender identity or expression, religion, religious dress or grooming practices, marital status, registered domestic partner status, age, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer), genetic information, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other consideration made unlawful by federal, state, or local laws. It also prohibits unlawful discrimination based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics, or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics. All such discrimination is prohibited. This policy applies to all employees and applicants for employment, and it applies to all aspects of employment, including recruitment, hiring, training, compensation, benefits, promotion, transfer, discipline and termination. It is the duty of every employee and supervisor to help maintain a work environment that promotes this policy.

If you have a question or a concern about discrimination in the workplace, you should bring your concerns to the attention of your supervisor, the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources, or to the Executive Director. Your complaint should be specific and should include the names of the individuals involved and the names of any witnesses. CSUSM Corporation will undertake an effective investigation and attempt to resolve the situation promptly. You may raise such concerns without fear of reprisal. CSUSM Corporation will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint and will not knowingly permit retaliation by management employees or your coworkers. Anyone found to be engaging in any type of unlawful discrimination will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

Reasonable Accommodation

To comply with applicable laws ensuring equal employment opportunities to qualified individuals with a physical or mental disability, CSUSM Corporation will make reasonable accommodations for the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or an employee unless undue hardship would result.

Any applicant or employee who requires an accommodation in order to perform the essential functions of the job should contact CSUSM Corporation Human Resources and request such an accommodation. The individual with the disability should specify what accommodation he or she needs to perform the job. CSUSM Corporation then will perform an assessment to identify the barriers that interfere with the equal opportunity of the applicant or employee to perform the

essential function of his or her job. CSUSM Corporation will identify possible accommodations, if any, that will help eliminate the limitation. If the accommodation is reasonable and will not impose an undue hardship, CSUSM Corporation will endeavor to make the accommodation.

Unlawful Harassment

CSUSM Corporation is committed to providing a work and educational environment that is free of sexual harassment, as well as other unlawful harassment based on such factors as race, color, creed, sex, gender including gender identification or expression, religion, religious dress or grooming practices, marital status, registered domestic partner status, age, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer), genetic information, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, veteran status and sexual orientation. In keeping with this commitment, CSUSM Corporation maintains a strict policy that prohibits unlawful harassment of employees, non-employees and students (see also Executive Order 1097 - Systemwide Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation against Students and Systemwide Procedure for Handling Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation Complaints by Students). Visitors to the campus, and workers employed by the University, by other auxiliaries, or by other public or private organizations engaged in business with CSUSM Corporation, are covered by and expected to comply with this policy. The purpose of this policy is to: (1) familiarize CSUSM Corporation's employees with the definition of unlawful harassment and the forms it can take; (2) confirm that unlawful harassment will not be tolerated and is contrary to the standards of conduct expected and required of CSUSM Corporation's employees; and (3) make clear that employees who engage in unlawful harassment are subject to possible disciplinary action which may include discharge.

Definition of Harassment

For the purposes of this policy, unlawful harassment means harassment on the job that is prohibited by provisions of State or Federal law applicable to CSUSM Corporation at the time the harassment occurs. Subject to this general definition, unlawful harassment may include unwelcome verbal, physical or visual conduct that unreasonably interferes with an employee's or student's performance or that creates an intimidating, offensive or hostile working or educational environment. This may occur where:

1. Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of an individual's employment or education.
2. Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the individual is used as the basis of employment or educational decisions affecting the individual.
3. The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's work performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work or educational environment.

Under most circumstances, harassment refers to the type of conduct that is pervasive, repetitive, and that is sufficiently severe to alter the conditions of an employee's employment or a student's education or employment. It also may refer to a single incident that is sufficiently outrageous or harmful, in and of itself, that it substantially alters the conditions of an employee's employment or interferes with that individual's ability to perform job related responsibilities.

Employees also should not confuse harassment with supervision. Supervisors have the right and responsibility to define the job that they want an employee to perform, as well as the manner in which an employee must perform that job. Thus, close supervision of an employee (which includes, but is not limited to, counseling and warnings about job performance, inappropriate conduct, or other performance issues) is not considered to be an example of unlawful harassment.

Examples of Harassment

Harassment may take many forms and will vary with the particular circumstances. Examples of unlawful sexual harassment prohibited by this policy may include, but are not limited to, the following: unwanted flirtations, advances and/or propositions of a sexual nature; deprecating remarks, insults, humor, jokes and/or anecdotes that belittle or demean an individual's body or clothing; unwelcome and/or offensive displays of sexually suggestive objects or pictures; unwelcome and offensive touching, such as patting, pinching, hugging or repeated brushing against an individual's body; sexual assault; and/or suggestions that submission to or rejection of sexual advances will affect decisions regarding such matters as an individual's work assignments, status, salary, benefits or other terms or conditions of employment.

Conduct that is part of a consensual relationship is not considered harassment; provided that the two parties act professionally and appropriately during their time at work. Nevertheless, a prior consensual relationship does not permit subsequent unwelcome or unwanted harassment.

Reporting and Complaint Procedure

Employees, interns, volunteers, and students are encouraged to report incidents of inappropriate or unwelcome conduct whenever it occurs. Employees and students are not required to wait for the conduct to be repeated or to worsen. Any incident of unlawful harassment, by any CSUSM Corporation employee or any other person conducting business with CSUSM Corporation, should be reported promptly to the employee's supervisor or manager and/or to the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources, who will arrange for an investigation of the matter. Managers who receive complaints or who observe harassing conduct are required to immediately inform the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources. An employee or student may contact CSUSM Corporation Human Resources directly and is not required to complain first to his or her supervisor.

All complaints of unlawful harassment are taken seriously and are promptly and objectively investigated. For example, an investigation may include interviews of individuals who might have information pertaining to the alleged harassment. If CSUSM Corporation begins an investigation, we will endeavor to keep the investigation confidential to the extent possible, including the names of complaining employees and witnesses. In the same way, anyone involved in an investigation of harassment has an obligation to keep all information about the investigation confidential. That is why CSUSM Corporation will only share information about a complaint of harassment with those who need to know about it. Failure to keep information about an investigation confidential may result in disciplinary action.

When the investigation has been completed, CSUSM Corporation will normally communicate the results of the investigation to the complaining employee, intern, volunteer, or student, to the alleged harasser and, if appropriate, to others who are directly involved. If CSUSM Corporation's policy against harassment is found to have been violated, appropriate corrective action, up to and including termination, will be taken against the harasser so that further harassment will be prevented. Both the rights of the alleged harasser and the complainant will be considered in any investigation and subsequent action.

No Retaliation

It is the obligation of all employees to cooperate fully in the investigation process. In addition, disciplinary action may be taken against any employee who is uncooperative or who attempts to discourage or prevent an employee from using CSUSM Corporation's complaint procedure to report unlawful harassment. Retaliation by a CSUSM Corporation employee against any individual who makes a complaint of unlawful harassment is strictly prohibited. Similarly, any person who participates or cooperates in any manner in an investigation or any other aspect of the process described herein shall not be retaliated against. Retaliation is itself a violation of this policy and is a serious offense. Complaints regarding allegations of reprisal should be immediately brought to the attention of the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources.

Corrective Action

If a policy violation has occurred and/or if unlawful harassment of, or by, a CSUSM Corporation employee is established, CSUSM Corporation will take action that is reasonably calculated to stop the harassment and provide any remedial action. In cases in which the alleged harasser is not an employee or student, CSUSM Corporation will take action to minimize the recurrence of inappropriate behavior.

Discipline that CSUSM Corporation or the University may impose on employees for behavior that violates this policy (or for other unprofessional conduct by a CSUSM Corporation employee) may include, but is not limited to, reprimand, mandatory attendance at a harassment prevention training program, suspension, demotion, or dismissal. Inappropriate behavior up to, and including, unlawful harassment by non-employees may result in restricting the harasser's access to campus.

Additional Information

In addition to the CSUSM Corporation internal complaint procedure, employees may also contact either the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") or the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing ("DFEH") to report unlawful harassment. The EEOC and the DFEH serve as neutral fact-finders and will attempt to assist the parties to voluntarily resolve their disputes. For more information, contact CSUSM Corporation's Head of Human Resources, or their designee, or you may contact the nearest EEOC or DFEH office.

[TITLE IX Information and Related Executive Orders](#)

Title IX policies and procedures can be found on the university website: [CSUSM Title IX Policy](#)

[Nature of Employment](#)

CSUSM Corporation is committed to a standard of excellence in the services it provides and in the quality of work expected of its employees. Recognizing that performance results and relationships are not always mutually satisfactory, and to protect the right of both CSUSM Corporation and the employee, every employee has an “at-will” relationship with CSUSM Corporation. That means that employment with CSUSM Corporation is at the mutual consent of the employer and the employee and is subject to termination by either CSUSM Corporation or the employee at any time, with or without cause or advance notice. In fact, every aspect of the employment relationship with CSUSM Corporation may continue only so long as there is such mutual consent.

Moreover, CSUSM Corporation reserves its inherent authority to manage and control its business enterprise and to exercise its discretion to determine all issues pertaining to your employment, including (but not limited to) all matters pertaining to promotion, salary, job assignment, the size of the workforce, demotion, transfer, and discipline. No one other than the Executive Director of CSUSM Corporation has the authority to alter this arrangement, to enter into an agreement for employment for a specified period, or to make any agreement contrary to this policy. Furthermore, any agreement which alters the nature of employment must be in writing and must be signed by the Executive Director of CSUSM Corporation and you.

[Confidentiality, Proprietary Information, Inventions](#)

It is the policy of CSUSM Corporation to ensure that the operations, activities and business affairs of CSUSM Corporation, its employees, and its clients are kept confidential. If, during the course of your employment, you acquire confidential or proprietary information about CSUSM Corporation, its employees, independent agents, or clients, such information is to be handled in strict confidence and may not be discussed with anyone not employed with CSUSM Corporation. Employees are also responsible for the internal security of such information. All records and files maintained by CSUSM Corporation are confidential and remain the property of CSUSM Corporation. Confidential information includes, but is in no way limited to: financial records; business, marketing, and strategic plans; personnel and payroll records regarding current and former employees; the identity of, contact information for, and any other account information on guests, vendors, and suppliers; inventions, research, programs, trade secrets, formulas, techniques, and processes; and any other documents or information regarding CSUSM Corporation’s operations, procedures, or practices. Confidential information may not be removed from any CSUSM Corporation worksite without express authorization from the Executive Director or his or her designee. If you are in doubt as to whether information is covered by this policy, you should err in favor of not divulging the information or you should discuss the situation with your Manager.

Employees should understand that CSUSM Corporation is the sole owner of any and all property rights in the confidential information, including, but not limited to, the right to use, sell, license, or otherwise transfer or exploit confidential information and the right to make such changes in them and the uses

thereof as it may from time to time determine. As provided in Section 2870 of the California Labor Code, this section does not apply to any Confidential Information:

- (A) For which no equipment, supplies, facility of CSUSM Corporation were used;
- (B) Which was developed entirely on the employee's own time; and
- (C) Which does not relate to CSUSM Corporation's current business or its actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development, or which does not result from any work performed by the employee for CSUSM Corporation.

Employees who violate this policy of confidentiality are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including, termination of employment. CSUSM Corporation reserves the right to avail itself of all legal or equitable remedies to prevent impermissible use of confidential information or to recover damages incurred as a result of the impermissible use of confidential information.

Employees may be required to enter into written confidentiality agreements confirming their understanding of CSUSM Corporation's confidentiality policies. Employees violating this policy are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including, termination of employment.

[Conflict of Interest](#)

CSUSM Corporation is concerned about conflicts of interest between CSUSM Corporation and its clients and vendors, and between CSUSM Corporation and its employees. While you are employed with us, CSUSM Corporation is entitled to your undivided loyalty. That means that you have an obligation both to avoid actual and potential conflicts of interest with CSUSM Corporation and its clients and vendors. An obvious conflict of interest would include engaging in, or preparing to engage in, a business that competes with CSUSM Corporation's business. Another obvious conflict would occur if you accepted a gratuity, gift or premium from a vendor who is seeking to do business with CSUSM Corporation. For these reasons, you should not engage in, directly or indirectly, either on or off the job, any conduct that is disloyal, disruptive, competitive, or damaging to CSUSM Corporation. For example, employees should not accept employment outside CSUSM Corporation if that employment conflicts with the effectiveness of their work for CSUSM Corporation. Further, employees should not utilize CSUSM Corporation information or services for their personal use, nor should they perform activities that are unrelated to CSUSM Corporation work during working hours. Overall, you are expected to represent CSUSM Corporation in a positive, ethical, and loyal manner.

Upon hire and at the beginning of each fiscal year, certain employees of CSUSM Corporation are required to file annual statements of economic interest in order to disclose any actual or potential instances of conflict of interest. You will be provided the appropriate forms if your position is required to complete the annual disclosure statements.

[Employment Eligibility](#)

Those individuals with a right to work in the United States (U.S.) include, but are not limited to, citizens of the U.S., resident aliens, and individuals with temporary work authorizations or visas that permit employment in the U.S. New employees must complete the I-9 form and must provide proof of the

right to work in the U.S. within three (3) days of their date of hire. The documents submitted must conform to the requirements of the Department of Homeland Security. CSUSM Corporation will not continue to employ an individual who does not meet the eligibility requirements for employment in the U.S. Nor can the Organization continue to employ an employee who is not able to provide the required documents within the 3-day time frame. It is the responsibility of an existing employee who has temporary work authorization or visa status which expire to allow sufficient time for renewal and present updated documents when received.

[Open Door Policy and Complaint Resolution](#)

CSUSM Corporation encourages you to bring your questions and concerns regarding any aspect of your work including wages, hours, working conditions, or core values to our attention. We will give careful consideration to your questions and concerns in our continuing effort to improve operations and communications.

If there is anything bothering you about your job, get it out in the open and talk about it. Discuss it frankly with us and we will do everything we can to help you remedy the situation. Your complaint will be handled in an open and fair manner.

We encourage you to present the situation to your immediate supervisor. Your immediate supervisor knows you and your job best. Past situations have shown that most problems can be settled by simple examination and discussion of the facts at this level. However, if your complaint involves your supervisor, or if you are not satisfied with your supervisor's response, or if for any reason you do not wish to bring the problem to your supervisor's attention, you may present your concern to your Department Head or to someone in CSUSM Corporation Human Resources.

Finally, if your problem is still not resolved to your satisfaction, you may contact the Executive Director. All complaints will be discussed, reviewed, and investigated in a confidential manner (as much as possible). This procedure, which we believe is important for both you and CSUSM Corporation, may not result in the resolution of every problem to your satisfaction. Nonetheless, CSUSM Corporation values your input and you should feel free to raise issues of concern, in good faith, and without fear of retaliation.

[Whistleblower Protection](#)

When employees notify an appropriate government or law enforcement agency that they have reason to believe their employer is violating a state or federal statute, or violating or not complying with a state or federal rule or regulation, those employees are protected from retaliation. Indeed, CSUSM Corporation has a strict policy that prohibits retaliating against employees who make such reports and that prohibits retaliating against employees who have made such reports while employed in any former employment. CSUSM Corporation also does not permit retaliation against an employee who refuses to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of a state or federal statute, or a violation or noncompliance with a state or federal rule or regulation.

If you have information regarding possible violations of state or federal statutes, rules, or regulations, or violations of fiduciary responsibility by CSUSM Corporation, we encourage you to report it immediately to your supervisor, manager, or to the Executive Director. Alternatively, you

may contact the California State Attorney General's Whistleblower Hotline at 1-800-952-5225. The Attorney General will refer your call to the appropriate government authority for review and possible investigation.

[Employment of Relatives](#)

Employees' relatives will not be eligible for employment with CSUSM Corporation where potential problems of supervision, safety, security or morale, or potential conflicts of interest exist. Relatives of present employees will not be hired by CSUSM Corporation if the individual(s) concerned work in a direct supervisory relationship. For purposes of this policy, "relatives" include a spouse, domestic partner, child, parents, sister, brother, in-laws, step parents, step siblings, step children, or any person involved in a legally binding guardianship or relationship with the employee, and/or residing in the home of the employee.

If two employees become subject to the restrictions of this policy after they are hired, one or both of the employees must seek a transfer or reassignment to eliminate the actual or potential conflict of interest as specified in this policy.

CSUSM Corporation reserves the right to determine that other relationships not specifically covered by this policy represent actual or potential conflicts of interest as well. Where CSUSM Corporation determines that the relationship between two employees presents an actual or potential conflict of interest, CSUSM Corporation may take appropriate action which includes, but is not necessarily limited to, transfers, reassignments, changing shifts or if necessary, possible termination.

[Workplace Violence](#)

CSUSM Corporation is strongly committed to providing a safe workplace. The purpose of this policy is to minimize the risk of personal injury and damage to the Corporation and personal property.

CSUSM Corporation has zero tolerance for violence and/or threats of violence against CSUSM Corporation employees, CSUSM Corporation business associates, or any member of the campus community. CSUSM Corporation prohibits any violent act, threat of violence or any behavior, which by intent, action or outcome harms or intimidates another person or property on any CSUSM Corporation or University work site, or while conducting CSUSM Corporation business. Such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

We strongly encourage you to report any observations, experiences or threats of violence to CSUSM Corporation's Head of Human Resources, or their designee, CSUSM Corporation's Executive Director, or to any member of CSUSM Corporation's management team.

Reports of threats may be maintained confidential to the extent possible, but cannot impede the ability to investigate and respond to the complaints. All threats will be promptly investigated. All employees must cooperate with all investigations. No employee will be subject to retaliation, intimidation or disciplinary action as a result of reporting a threat in good faith under this policy.

The Corporation does not expect our employees to become experts in psychology or to physically subdue a threatening or violent individual. In fact, we specifically discourage employees from

engaging in any physical confrontation with a violent individual. However, CSUSM Corporation does expect and encourage employees to exercise reasonable judgment in identifying potentially dangerous situations and reporting those situations to management or to the appropriate authorities.

If an employee is the recipient of a threat made by an outside party, that employee should follow the steps detailed in this policy. It is important for all employees to be aware of any danger in any workplace environment.

Workplace Visitors

There is a delicate balance between an employee's work life and his/her personal life. Wherever possible, CSUSM Corporation endeavors to maintain employment policies, practices and benefits which are supportive of both. The workplace, however, should be an environment aimed at accomplishing the work activities and goals of CSUSM Corporation.

On occasion, employees may experience visits from individuals who are not here on official business. Such visitors may include, but are not limited to: friends, family members, off duty employees, and former employees. Frequent or extended visits by visitors may not only be a distraction to the employee or coworkers, but such visits also raise concerns of increased liability for CSUSM Corporation. Accordingly, the following guidelines have been adopted:

- Visits should be brief and infrequent.
- Recurring or extended visits may be considered by the department manager/designee: 1) When authorization is requested in advance, and 2) Corporation Human Resources and Department operations are able to accommodate.
- Visitors may not enter hazardous or restricted areas without the authorization of the department manager/designee.
- The workplace may not be used as a substitute for childcare. Infrequent emergency exceptions may be made with department manager approval. Minor children (under 18 years of age) may not be left unattended.
- Employees are responsible for the actions of their visitors.
- Pets are not allowed in the workplace (service animals excepted).

Managers and supervisors are responsible for enforcing the Workplace Visitors policy.

Drug-Free Workplace

CSUSM Corporation is committed to establishing and maintaining a drug-free workplace. To that end, CSUSM Corporation prohibits the unauthorized use of drugs (including state sanctioned marijuana) or alcohol, including but not limited to, the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances in the workplace. An employee who violates this policy shall be subject to discipline including immediate termination. Except as provided below, the following is strictly prohibited for all employees while on CSUSM Corporation's or the University's premises, while operating CSUSM Corporation's or the University's vehicles or equipment, or while performing CSUSM Corporation business regardless of the location:

- use of alcohol, drugs, intoxicants, or controlled substances (including state sanctioned marijuana);
- reporting to work, or remaining on duty, while impaired by or under the influence of alcohol, drugs, intoxicants or controlled substances;
- driving a vehicle on CSUSM Corporation business while impaired by or under the influence of alcohol, drugs, intoxicants or controlled substances;
- possession, sale, purchase, manufacture, transportation, dispensation or distribution of alcohol, drugs, intoxicants or controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia or an attempt to do any of the same.

An exception may be made to the prohibition of possession or use of alcohol on campus for certain Corporation or University events; so long as this has been approved by the President or the President's Designee.

The use of prescribed or over-the-counter drugs, or possession incident to such use, is not prohibited by this policy if: (a) the drug has been legally obtained and is being used for the purpose for which it was prescribed or manufactured; (b) the drug is being used at the dosage prescribed or authorized; and (c) the use of the drug does not prevent the employee from safely performing the essential functions of his or her position with or without reasonable accommodation. CSUSM Corporation reserves the right to require certification that the use of the drug will not impair the ability of the employee to perform his/her job properly and safely.

Consequences for Violating This Policy

In the event that CSUSM Corporation discovers that an employee has violated this policy, the employee will be subject to discipline up to and including termination and CSUSM Corporation may report the violation to appropriate law enforcement authorities. It is the responsibility of any CSUSM Corporation employee convicted of a criminal drug offense occurring in the workplace to notify CSUSM Corporation's Executive Director within five calendar days of the conviction. Additionally, an employee's conviction for the sale, possession or use of any illegal controlled substance while off the job will also subject the employee to discipline up to and including termination.

Employees Who Seek Assistance

Employees who suspect that they may have a substance abuse problem may contact CSUSM Corporation Human Resources about the possibility of a leave to enroll in a professionally recognized alcohol and/or drug rehabilitation program. However, such a request does not give an employee the right to state that he or she has a substance abuse problem and expect accommodation once CSUSM Corporation discovers that an employee has violated this policy. Nor does it shield an employee from disciplinary action for violation of this policy.

CSUSM Corporation is not responsible for the cost of the employee's participation in the rehabilitation program, and any leave necessary to attend a rehabilitation program is unpaid, unless the employee is otherwise eligible to use paid time off under CSUSM Corporation's policies. If the employee fails to return to work upon the expiration of his or her rehabilitation program leave or fails to satisfactorily complete the program, the employee will be terminated.

Nothing contained in this policy is intended to create a contract of any kind or to alter the at-will nature of the employee's employment.

Questions and Confidentiality

Employees with questions about this policy or about issues related to drug or alcohol use in the workplace may raise their concerns with their supervisor or with CSUSM Corporation's Executive Director. All records or communications relevant to an employee's participation in a drug or alcohol rehabilitation program or use of prescription drugs or over the counter drugs will be confidentially maintained and limited to personnel on a need to know basis.

[Off Duty Conduct](#)

While CSUSM Corporation does not seek to interfere with the off-duty and personal conduct of its employees, certain types of off-duty conduct may interfere with CSUSM Corporation legitimate business interests. For this reason, employees are expected to conduct their personal affairs in a manner that does not adversely affect CSUSM Corporation or their own integrity, reputation or credibility. Illegal or demonstration of poor judgement by an employee that adversely affects CSUSM Corporation legitimate business interests or the employee's ability to perform his or her job will not be tolerated.

[News Media Contacts](#)

Employees may be approached for interviews or comments by the news media. Only contact people who have been designated by the Executive Director may comment to news reporters on CSUSM Corporation policy or events relevant to CSUSM Corporation. All reporters and members of the media should be referred to the Executive Director's office.

The Executive Director will determine the appropriate spokesperson on behalf of CSUSM Corporation and will also refer the reporter or other media person to the appropriate source for comment.

Work Scheduling and Compensation

Employee Categories

For most purposes, employees fall into one of three general categories:

- **Regular** employees are employed by CSUSM Corporation to work a regular schedule of thirty (30) or more hours per week for an expected period of greater than sixty (60) days up to one (1) year, after which their appointment may be renewed. Regular employees qualify for and may participate in benefit plans and programs offered by CSUSM Corporation, as funds allow.
- **Part-time and/or Temporary** employees are those employees whose expected term of employment is less than sixty (60) days or twenty-five (25) hours per week or less. They are paid based on the number of hours or days reported on their timecards each pay period. Part-time and/or Temporary employees with appointments of six (6) months or more and who work at least twenty (20) hours, but less than thirty (30) hours per week may be eligible for vacation or paid academic breaks, holidays, personal holiday hours, and Personal Time Off during their employment. Part-time and Temporary employees who are eligible to receive any paid leave benefits will be notified in writing. They are not eligible for benefits such as employer-paid insurance or retirement programs (unless mandated by federal and/or state regulations).
- **Student Assistants** are Part-time and/or Temporary employees who regularly attend classes and otherwise meet the eligibility requirements for Student Assistant at CSUSM. One of these requirements is that the individual be continuously enrolled at least half-time at CSUSM during the academic year – i.e., six (6) undergraduate units or four (4) graduate units. Managers are not to employ their students for more than twenty (20) hours per week during the academic year in order to not interfere with their studies. In addition, students enrolled for the minimum number of units noted above for the summer sessions also qualify as Student Assistants. If the student is not enrolled part-time or more for the summer session, managers may employ them up to forty (40) hours per week during the summer. Student Assistants are paid at an hourly rate and may be exempt from paying Social Security and Medicare taxes (FICA) while enrolled as at least a part-time CSUSM student. Although they are eligible for workers' compensation, unemployment and disability insurance, they do not qualify for other employer-provided benefits.

Positions, and the employees in them, are either classified as “non-exempt” or “exempt”. This determination is made by Human Resources with input from management. A general description of the two classifications is as follows:

- **Non-exempt employees** are entitled to receive overtime pay when they work overtime hours and are normally paid an hourly wage; or
- **Exempt employees** are not entitled to receive overtime compensation. Exempt employees who are required to be paid on a salary basis may not have their pay reduced for variations in the quantity or quality of work performed but there are certain instances where deductions may occur as permitted by law.

Employees who feel their pay has been improperly reduced should report this immediately to the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources. CSUSM Corporation will review pay records to determine if the allegation is correct. If the deduction was in fact improper, CSUSM Corporation will reimburse the employee as promptly as possible.

[Hours of Work and Schedules](#)

CSUSM Corporation is normally open for business from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, although some operations may continue on a seven-day week, 24-hour basis. Daily and weekly work schedules may change from time to time at the discretion of CSUSM Corporation to meet varying needs of our business or to support the University’s hours of operation. CSUSM Corporation’s regular work week is Sunday through Saturday, beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Sunday morning and ending at 12:00 a.m. the following Saturday night.

It is important to know the whereabouts of all employees during regularly scheduled work hours so that we can be responsive to customers and other staff members who may need information or assistance. You are expected to notify your supervisor or follow established office guidelines when you will be out of the office. Every employee also should have a regular work schedule that is established between the employee and supervisor and that meets the operational needs of the department or organization. When changes to the work schedule are made, employees are responsible for requesting such changes, in writing, from their supervisor.

[Meal and Rest Periods](#)

Meal Periods

For our non-exempt employees, it is our policy to provide and afford those employees who work more than five (5) hours with an uninterrupted 30-minute meal period free from all duty to begin no later than when the employee has completed five (5) hours of work and a second uninterrupted 30-minute meal period free from all duty to commence no later than when the employee has completed ten (10) hours of work, should an employee work ten (10) or more hours in any given day. When a non-exempt employee completes their workday in six (6) hours, the meal period may be waived by the employee. Non-exempt employees must record the beginning and ending time of their meal period in the timekeeping system every day.

It is our policy to relieve you of all duty during your meal periods, so that you are at liberty to use the meal period time as you wish. The Organization schedules all work assignments with the expectation that all employees will take their duty-free meal periods and we encourage you to do so. You may be asked to confirm in writing that you have been relieved of all duty and otherwise provided all of your meal periods during a particular pay period, or in the alternative, identify any meal periods you missed. At no time may any employee perform off-the-clock work or otherwise alter, falsify, or manipulate any aspect of their timekeeping records to inaccurately reflect or hide meal periods or time spent working during meal periods.

Please note that no CSUSM Corporation manager or supervisor is authorized to instruct you how to spend your personal time during a meal or rest period. You should immediately report a manager's or supervisor's instruction to skip or work during a meal period to Human Resources.

Rest Periods

The Organization provides non-exempt employees with the opportunity to take a ten (10) minute paid rest period for every four (4) hours worked (or major fraction thereof), which should be taken so far as practicable in the middle of each work period.

The Organization generally will not authorize a rest period for employees whose total daily work time is less than three and one-half (3 ½) hours. Employees are generally authorized and permitted to schedule their rest periods at their own discretion under these guidelines; however, a supervisor may ask that rest periods be scheduled to best ensure the smooth operation of their Department. Rest periods may not be combined with other rest or meal periods.

Rest periods are counted as hours worked, and thus, you are not required to record your rest periods on your timecards or the Organization's timekeeping system. However, no supervisor is authorized or allowed to instruct or allow you to waive a rest period, and rest periods cannot be used to shorten the workday or be accumulated for any other purpose. Please report any such instructions to Human Resources.

You may be required to verify that you have been provided an opportunity to take all of your rest periods during a particular pay period.

[Lactation Accommodation](#)

CSUSM Corporation will provide any employee with a location and reasonable break time to express milk in private. If an employee requires a location and time to express milk, please contact your manager or Human Resources and we will respond and make appropriate arrangements for a location that is private, free from intrusion during lactation, and comfortable. We also will work with the employee on a schedule that allows the employee to take reasonable breaks for lactation. We ask that you give us as much advance notice as you can so that we can make appropriate arrangements. If we cannot accommodate an employee's request for a

location or break time to express milk, we will respond in writing explaining the reasons for that decision. If an employee believes that the CSUSM Corporation has not complied with a lactation accommodation requirement, please let us know so that we can resolve the situation. Otherwise, an employee may file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner.

Attendance and Punctuality

CSUSM Corporation expects you to be reliable and to be punctual in reporting for scheduled work. Absenteeism, tardiness, and early departures from the worksite place an undue burden on other employees and on CSUSM Corporation. If you cannot avoid being late to work or are unable to work as scheduled, you must report your absence to your supervisor at least 30 minutes before the start of your scheduled start time.

Excessive absenteeism, early departures, or tardiness may lead to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. Simply notifying your supervisor that you will be absent or tardy does not mean that the absence or tardiness is excused. In some cases of absence due to injury or illness, CSUSM Corporation may require a doctor's certificate before you return to work. Examples where a doctor's release may be required: Returning from a Medical Leave of Absence and/or returning to work with restrictions. Unless other arrangements have been made, you should notify your supervisor each day that you are absent. Employees who fail to report to work without any notification to the employee's supervisor for three consecutive days will be considered to have voluntarily terminated their employment with CSUSM Corporation.

Timekeeping

Timecards are used as a means of accurately recording hours worked and calculating pay. All CSUSM Corporation employees submit a timecard semi-monthly, and all employees are required to report absences from work such as vacation, Personal Time Off (PTO), or other leaves of absence. Timecards must be completed, or manual time sheets must be submitted to CSUSM Corporation according to the published Time Sheet Deadline dates listed on the Payroll Schedule.

Non-exempt employees are required to record the time when they start work, leave for lunch, return from lunch, and when they leave at the end of the day. Exempt salaried employees are not required to record their start and stop times but must list their "exceptions" for each pay period. Exceptions may include but not be limited to vacation, PTO, personal time and holiday pay.

Accuracy is important since hourly wages and benefits are calculated on the basis of the time recorded. Employees are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their own timecards. Altering, falsifying, or tampering with a timecard may result in disciplinary action up to and including discharge. *IT IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN TO TAMPER WITH ANOTHER EMPLOYEE'S TIMECARD.*

Overtime

From time to time or as necessary, you may be required to work overtime. Non-exempt employees will be paid one and one-half (1 ½) times their regular rate for all hours worked in excess of the first eight (8) hours in a work day, over forty (40) regular hours in a work week, or for the first eight (8) hours on the seventh (7th) consecutive day of work in a work week. Non-exempt employees will be paid two (2)

times their regular rate for all hours worked in excess of twelve (12) in a workday or in excess of eight (8) on the seventh (7th) consecutive day of work in a work week. For purposes of determining which hours constitute overtime, only actual hours worked in a given workday or workweek will be counted (therefore PTO, vacation, and holiday hours do not count). Exempt employees are not entitled to overtime pay.

Overtime is to be scheduled and approved only when the work cannot be accomplished within normal working hours and only if it has been authorized in advance by the Project Director or supervisor. Student Assistants are not authorized to work overtime while school is in session unless they receive advanced approval from CSUSM Corporation's Executive Director or designee. Non-exempt employees who work unauthorized overtime may be subject to disciplinary action.

[Mandatory Meetings & Trainings](#)

Newly hired employees will be provided with a list of trainings from Human Resources for which they will be required to attend and/or complete. Other CSUSM Corporation and/or University provided trainings may be available upon request. Additional information, including specific dates and times of each session are available by request from Human Resources.

CSUSM Corporation will pay non-exempt employees for their time spent in attending mandatory meetings and mandatory training programs. Employees who fail to attend/complete mandatory meetings or mandatory trainings may be subject to discipline up to and including termination of employment.

[Paying Employees](#)

CSUSM Corporation employees are paid semi-monthly (twice a month), with 24 pay periods annually, according to the published CSUSM Corporation Payroll Schedule. Many CSUSM Corporation employees enjoy the benefits of Direct Deposit. When you complete and submit the authorization form to CSUSM Corporation's Payroll office, CSUSM Corporation will initiate the process to deposit the net amount of your check into the designated bank, credit union, or other financial institution account. You should allow for a minimum of one pay period for direct deposit to be set up or direct deposit changes to be processed. Once set up, deposits will normally reach the designated institutions on or before scheduled paydays. On pay days you will still receive a direct deposit statement that serves as your check stub unless you have opted to go paperless, in which case you can access your pay stub record electronically in the payroll and timekeeping system.

[Pay Transparency Statement](#)

CSUSM Corporation will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against employees or applicants because they have inquired about, discussed, or disclosed their own pay or the pay of another employee or applicant. However, employees who have authorized access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants may not disclose the pay of other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to compensation information, unless the disclosure is (a) in response to a formal complaint or charge, (b) in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or (c) consistent with CSUSM Corporation's legal duty to furnish such information.

[Personnel Records](#)

We keep records concerning your employment, so it is important that your personnel records are accurate and up to date. When you were hired, you provided us with certain information about yourself, and it is important that this information remains current because it enables us to reach you in an emergency, to maintain your benefits properly, and to compute your payroll deductions. Please notify CSUSM Corporation immediately of any change in your name, address or telephone number, marital status, number of dependents, beneficiary or dependents listed on your insurance policy, or any change in the person that you want us to notify in case of an emergency.

You may inspect your personnel file, as provided by law, in the presence of a Human Resources Representative at a mutually convenient time. CSUSM Corporation will restrict disclosure of your personnel file to authorized individuals within CSUSM Corporation. Any request for information contained in personnel files must be directed to CSUSM Corporation's Head of Human Resources, or their designee. Only CSUSM Corporation's Head of Human Resources or their designee is authorized to release information about current or former employees. CSUSM Corporation will cooperate with requests from authorized law enforcement or local, state, or federal agencies conducting official investigations and as otherwise legally required.

[Job Performance](#)

Your supervisor can provide both positive and corrective feedback to help you achieve excellence in your job and meet the professional goals you and CSUSM Corporation have set. Most departments provide periodic opportunities for you and your supervisor to sit down and discuss your overall performance. These discussions provide an excellent opportunity for you to confirm how you are doing and to set new goals and objectives for the future. CSUSM Corporation expects that employees will meet all performance standards. Additionally, employees are expected to display behavior that is consistent with CSUSM Corporation's and your departmental policies and procedures. Key ingredients to successful performance include systematic and definitive orientation to job responsibilities and departmental procedures, appropriate on-the-job training, ongoing communication of performance expectations and standards, periodic performance and career development feedback, and corrective, progressive approaches to work performance.

Annual Performance Appraisals

Performance appraisals for Regular employees will be conducted on an annual basis. The appraisals are scheduled to occur on or before 60 days after the end of an employee's performance appraisal period (or as otherwise communicated due to unforeseen circumstances), are to be conducted in writing and are to be delivered in person. Completed performance appraisals are to be submitted to CSUSM Corporation Human Resources no later than the deadline noted above. Performance appraisal periods will be based upon a pre-determined annual basis (April 1 to March 31). Part-time and/or Temporary employees may be included in the performance appraisal process, but this is not a requirement. Positive performance appraisals do not guarantee pay increases or promotions. Pay increases and promotions are within CSUSM Corporation's discretion and depend upon many factors in addition to performance. They are not guaranteed and are subject to project funding and annual budgetary constraints.

90-Day Performance Appraisals

Upon hire, reclassification, promotion, or transfer, all Regular employees will receive a 90-day performance appraisal in writing from their supervisor within two (2) weeks of the end of ninety (90) full calendar days on the job. Supervisors are to meet one-on-one with their employee to discuss the appraisal and are to complete and turn in the performance appraisal to CSUSM Corporation Human Resources. The purpose of this appraisal is to allow the employee and their supervisor the opportunity to evaluate one another and the employee's compatibility, ability, and interest in the job.

It should be understood by all employees that their employment may be terminated at any time, with or without cause or notice, either during or after this 90-day introductory period. Successful completion of this period does not in any way affect the "at will" nature of CSUSM Corporation employment.

Employee Benefits

Eligibility for Benefits

CSUSM Corporation offers a comprehensive benefits package for all eligible employees that is a significant part of total compensation. CSUSM Corporation’s Board of Directors reserves the power at any time to modify, amend or terminate (in whole or in part) any or all of the provisions of the employee’s health insurance plans that it may legally be empowered to do. Any such action shall be adopted by formal action of CSUSM Corporation’s Board of Directors and executed by an officer authorized to act on behalf of CSUSM Corporation Generally, eligibility for CSUSM Corporations benefits can be summarized by the following table:

Benefit	Regular <i>Appointment for Greater than 60 days & 30 hrs/week or more</i>	Part-time and/or Temporary With Leave <i>6 Months – less than 1 year & 20 hrs – 25 hrs/week or more</i>	Part-time and/or Temporary Without Leave <i>Less than 6 Months and/or less than 30 hrs/week</i>	Student Assistant <i>Less than 1 year & no more than 20 hrs/week during academic year</i>
Medical, Dental & Vision insurance ¹	✓			
Life/AD&D & LTD insurance ¹	✓			
Cafeteria Plan ¹	✓			
Employee Assistance Program ¹	✓			
Retirement plan ^{1, 2}	✓	✓	✓	
Educational Reimbursement ³	✓			
Field House Membership ¹	✓			
AFLAC insurance ¹	✓			
Vacation ⁴	✓	✓		
Personal Time Off (PTO) ⁴	✓	✓		
Holidays ⁴	✓	✓		
Paid Sick Leave (PSL) ⁵			✓	✓
Unemployment insurance ⁵	✓	✓	✓	✓
Workers’ Compensation ⁵	✓	✓	✓	✓
State Disability Insurance ⁵	✓	✓	✓	✓
FICA (Social Security, Medicare) ^{5, 6}	✓	✓	✓	✓
Paid Family Leave Benefits ⁵	✓	✓	✓	✓

1. Benefits, within an eligible category, become effective on the first of the month following date of hire

2. Part-time and/or Temporary employees are eligible for Employee Only Retirement Plan contributions, except as eligible for Employer Retirement Plan contribution (1,000 hours or more worked during plan year and actively employed on last day of plan year)
3. Regular employees who have completed at least one year of Regular employment (without a break in service), based on availability of funding
4. Benefits are pro-rated according to the number of hours/week an employee is scheduled to work
5. Benefits become effective immediately upon employment within an eligible category
6. Student Assistants may be exempt from FICA and Medicare taxes if enrolled at CSUSM and meet the minimum enrollment requirements

[Changes to Employment Categories](#)

When business operations of CSUSM Corporation sponsored projects necessitate a change in an employee's employment category, all outstanding benefits must be paid by the project at the time of the change. Sometimes a change in employment category will result in benefits for an employee being discontinued. An example of this would be if a change in business operations required that a regular employee became categorized as a Part-Time and/or Temporary employee "without leave," and that employee had a balance in vacation and PTO benefits. When this occurs, all benefits would need to be paid by the project at the time the change occurs.

CSUSM Corporation reserves the right to modify, amend or terminate (in whole or in part) any employee benefit.

[Summary of Medical and Related Benefits](#)

CSUSM Corporation provides medical, dental and vision insurance programs to its Regular employees. Some programs are supported fully by CSUSM Corporation; the cost for others is shared by the employee and CSUSM Corporation. The descriptions for the benefit programs found in this handbook are for general information only. Each plan has an official "Summary Plan Document" where specific information on coverage can be found. Those documents are the official description of the benefits offered and supersede anything stated in these policies.

Medical: Regular employees who are scheduled to work thirty (30) hours per week or more for a period of longer than sixty (60) days may enroll in the health plan of his or her choice. The effective date of medical coverage is the 1st day of the month following date of hire and receipt of the completed enrollment form by the CSUSM Corporation Human Resources Office. CSUSM Corporation and the employee may share in the cost of this program. Enrollment can be for yourself and your eligible dependents. Complete details of our medical benefit plans are described in separate materials which will be provided to you at your request or when you become eligible for this benefit.

Dental & Vision: Regular employees who are scheduled to work thirty (30) hours per week or more for a period longer than sixty (60) days and their eligible dependents may enroll in the dental and vision plan. The effective date of one's dental and/or vision coverage begins the 1st day of the month following receipt of the completed enrollment form by the Human Resources Office. Complete details of our dental and vision benefit plans are described in separate materials which will be provided to you at your request or when you become eligible for this benefit.

Life/AD&D & Long-Term Disability (LTD): Regular employees who are scheduled to work thirty (30) hours per week or more for a period longer than sixty (60) days may enroll in the Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) insurance and Long-Term Disability Insurance. Both benefits are based upon Annual Earnings up to a specific maximum amount. Employees can also select additional Optional Life and/or optional AD&D insurance to supplement these policies. Complete details of these benefits are described in separate materials which will be provided to you.

Cafeteria Plan: CSUSM Corporation offers its regular employees choices related to its benefits programs under Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Service code. Because of this plan, employees can choose from several tax savings options related to their benefits. Those options include:

- Pre-Tax Medical Premiums
- Medical Flexible Spending Accounts
- Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts

Benefits for Cash Plan: The Benefits for Cash Plan is an optional benefit plan that allows you to waive medical, dental and/or vision insurance plan(s) in exchange for cash if you have other coverage. If you waive or cancel your medical, dental and/or vision insurance plan(s), you will receive additional cash in your paycheck each month. The Benefits for Cash Plan payment is treated as taxable income and will be subject to the same payroll taxes (federal, state, social security) as regular salary. The additional cash income will be reported as income on Form W-2 in the year it is received.

Regular employees who are scheduled to work thirty (30) hours per week or more for a period of longer than sixty (60) days and who have certified that they have alternative coverage(s) and that coverage has been approved by CSUSM Corporation are eligible for the Benefits for Cash Plan. You need to make sure your medical, dental and/or vision needs are met before you elect the Benefits for Cash Plan. If you decide to waive medical, dental and/or vision coverage(s), you will be required to certify on the Benefits for Cash Plan Enrollment Form that you have alternative coverage(s) and those coverage(s) have been approved by CSUSM Corporation.

Employee Assistance Program: The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides confidential counseling and referral services to all regular and part-time non-student employees and members of their household 24 hours a day. This benefit is available through an external provider to assist you and your family in dealing with a wide variety of problems or concerns such as those involving relationships, parenting, drug/alcohol abuse, depression, communication, stress, and concerns related to your job. All services are kept strictly confidential.

Retirement Plan: Regular employees who are scheduled to work thirty (30) hours per week or more for a period of longer than sixty (60) days are eligible to participate in CSUSM Corporation's 403(b) retirement plan on the first day of the month following date of hire. Participation is mandatory for eligible employees and all monies contributed by CSUSM Corporation are immediately 100% vested within this plan. When you begin participating, contributions will be made automatically to the funding

vehicles that you've chosen, based on a percentage of your compensation according to the following schedule:

- 8% contribution by the institution (CSUSM Corporation)
- 3% minimum mandatory contribution by the employee. Employees may contribute additional amounts up to the maximum allowable limits under Federal law.

Part-time (non-student) employees are eligible for employee only contributions. Complete details of the retirement plan are described in separate materials which will be provided to you at your request or when you become eligible for this benefit.

[Post-Retirement Health](#)

CSUSM Corporation provides post-retirement health benefits to qualified Regular employees. Effective January 1, 2015 the plan was terminated with the exception of those meeting specific service, age and other requirements. Further updates were made effective June 1, 2018. Complete details of our post-retirement health plan are described in separate materials which will be provided to you at your request or when you become eligible for this benefit.

[Educational Reimbursement Program](#)

CSUSM Corporation's Educational Reimbursement Program assists employees who aspire to higher levels of skills and professional competencies. Educational reimbursement may be used for successful completion of approved work-related classes or accredited courses leading to an undergraduate or graduate degree that supports the mission of CSUSM Corporation.

Educational fee reimbursements, based upon availability of funds and department/program budgets, will be made accessible to all eligible Regular employees who have completed at least one year of Regular employment (without a break in service). Eligible employees are required to submit for approval an Education Reimbursement Application Form prior to enrollment in classes. To maintain eligibility, employees must remain on active payroll and be performing their job satisfactorily throughout the completion of each course. Upon demonstration of successful completion of courses taken, the employee's semester/quarter tuition costs or fees will be reimbursed up to the maximum allowable amount.

Please see CSUSM Corporation Human Resources for more details about this benefit.

[Professional Development](#)

CSUSM Corporation encourages professional development of its employees. For that reason, CSUSM Corporation understands that employees may need to attend training programs, seminars, conferences, lectures, meetings, or other outside activities for a variety of reasons, such as for the benefit of CSUSM Corporation, the employee's department or the individual employee(s). Attendance at such activities, whether required by CSUSM Corporation or voluntarily requested by individual employees, requires the written approval of your supervisor if attendance is necessary during working hours. To obtain approval, any employee wishing to attend an activity during working hours must submit a written request detailing all relevant information, including date, hours, location, cost, expenses and the nature, purpose and

justification for attendance. Attendance at any such event is subject to the following policies on reimbursement and compensation:

For attendance at events required or authorized by CSUSM Corporation, customary and reasonable expenses may be reimbursed upon submission of proper receipts. Acceptable expenses generally include registration fees, materials, meals, transportation and parking. Reimbursement policies regarding these expenses should be discussed with your supervisor and/or Auxiliary Financial Services in advance. Employee attendance at authorized outside activities will be considered hours worked for non-exempt employees and will be compensated in accordance with normal payroll practices.

Compensation and reimbursement, however, does not apply to an employee’s voluntary attendance, outside of normal working hours, at formal or informal educational sessions, even if such sessions generally may lead to improved job performance. While CSUSM Corporation generally encourages all employees to improve their knowledge, job skills and promotional qualifications, such activities do not qualify for reimbursement or compensation under this policy unless prior written approval is obtained as described above.

Vacation

In general terms, the intent of CSUSM Corporation’s vacation policy is to provide eligible employees with a period of rest and relaxation away from work. Vacation benefits begin to accrue to eligible employees immediately upon employment. Those employees who receive paid academic breaks do not accrue vacation.

Eligibility & Rate of Vacation Accrual

Most employees who are regularly scheduled to work 40 hours per week and who have been appointed for a period of six months or longer may accrue vacation according to the following schedule:

Service Requirements	Monthly Accrual Rate	Annual Accrual Rate	“Cap” (Maximum Accrual)
1 Month to 3 years (1- 36 months)	6.66 hours	80 hours	160 hours
Years 4 thru 6 (37-72 months)	10.00 hours	120 hours	240 hours
Years 7 thru 9 (73-108 months)	11.33 hours	136 hours	272 hours
Years 10 thru 15 (109-180 months)	13.33 hours	160 hours	320 hours
Year 16 + (181 + months)	16.00 hours	192 hours	384 hours

Employees who are regularly scheduled to work at least 20 hours per week but less than 40 hours per week and who have been appointed for a period of six months or longer may accrue vacation on a pro rata basis. All other employees, including Student Assistants, are not entitled to accrue vacation.

Accruals for vacation will start immediately and will occur on a per pay period basis.

Accruals for Director-level Positions

Regular Employees in the following positions will accrue vacation at 16 hours per month regardless of years of service:

- Project Directors (full and direct responsibility for entire CSUSM Corporation project)
- CSUSM Corporation Administrative Office Directors, Associate Directors or Assistant Directors

The accruals for Director-level positions will not exceed 192 hours annually and will “cap” at 384 hours.

Maximum Vacation Accrual

Employees may accrue vacation up to a maximum amount that equals two times the employee’s annual accrual entitlement. Once an employee has accrued the maximum amount of vacation pay, the accrual will stop. Employees may begin accruing vacation pay again once the employee has used some of his or her accrued but unused vacation pay.

Vacation benefits do not accrue for time worked in excess of 40 hours per week, such as overtime. Vacation also does not accrue during any pay period when no time is worked.

Use of Vacation

- Vacation shall not be used prior to the time it is actually earned and must be used in increments of one hour or more.
- Completion of one full month of service with CSUSM Corporation is necessary before vacation leave may be used. To ensure an efficient workflow, written approval of your supervisor and/or appropriate administrator is required prior to the use of vacation. The requester should provide as much advance notice as possible prior to the proposed vacation leave, and vacation schedule requests will be considered in light of the expected work load and availability of staff for that period of time.
- All employees on sponsored projects are expected to use their vacation within the grant or project period; otherwise all accrued but unused vacation will be paid at the end of the project period.
- All Part-time and/or Temporary employees who are eligible for vacation should use their vacation during their period of appointment; otherwise all accrued but unused vacation will be paid at the end of the appointment.
- All accrued but unused vacation benefits are paid at the time of separation of employment at the employee’s current rate of pay.
- Exempt (salaried) employees should not record vacation time off in less than one-half (1/2) day increments.

[Personal Time Off \(PTO\)](#)

Personal Time Off (PTO) may be used by benefitted employee for a personal illness, medical appointments, school appointments, observance of religious holidays, or to conduct personal business. When PTO is being taken in accordance with the CA paid sick leave allowance, the

employee may use PTO for paid sick leave for care, treatment, or preventive care for the employee's own health conditions or that of a child, parent, spouse, registered domestic partner, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling. It may also be used in certain circumstances for an employee who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking to obtain relief, including medical attention and psychological counseling.

Eligibility & Rate of PTO Accrual

Employees who are regularly scheduled to work forty (40) hours per week and who have been appointed for a period in excess of six (6) months may accrue PTO at the rate of six (6) hours per month (three (3) hours per pay period).

Employees who are regularly scheduled to work at least twenty (20) hours per week but less than forty (40) hours per week and who have been appointed for a period of six (6) months or longer may accrue PTO on a pro rata basis. Employees who are employed by an academic-related appointment may be eligible to accrue PTO on a pro rata basis based on their teaching load. All other employees, including Student Assistants, are not entitled to accrue PTO.

Maximum PTO Accrual

Employees may accrue PTO up to a maximum amount that equals two times the employee's annual accrual entitlement. Once an employee has accrued the maximum amount of PTO, the accrual will stop. Employees may begin accruing PTO again once the employee has used some of his or her accrued but unused PTO.

PTO does not accrue for time worked in excess of forty (40) hours per week, such as overtime. PTO also does not accrue during any pay period when no time is worked.

Use of PTO

- For non-exempt (hourly) employees, PTO shall not be used prior to the time it is actually earned and must be used in increments of one-half (1/2) hour or more.
- For exempt (salaried) employees, PTO shall not be used prior to the time it is actually earned and shall not be recorded in less than one-half (1/2) day increments.
- Completion of one full month of service with CSUSM Corporation is necessary before PTO may be taken. Employees should request Personal Time Off in advance for pre-scheduled appointments (meetings, appointments, etc.) so that adequate staffing may be ensured.
- All employees on sponsored projects are expected to use their PTO within the grant or project period, otherwise all accrued but unused PTO will be paid at the end of the project period.
- All Part-time and/or Temporary employees who are eligible for PTO should use their PTO during their period of appointment, otherwise all accrued but unused PTO will be paid at the end of the appointment.
- All accrued but unused PTO will be paid at the time of separation of employment at the employee's current rate of pay.

[Sick Pay for Non-Benefitted Employees](#)

In order to minimize the economic hardships that may result from an unexpected short-term illness or injury to an employee or legal dependent, the Organization provides its non-benefitted employees with sick pay benefits for the actual illness or injury of an employee or to care for the employee's spouse, parent, sibling, children, grandchild, or grandparent. Paid sick leave also may be used for doctor appointments, preventative care, and by victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking to obtain relief, including medical attention and psychological counseling. Benefitted employees may use their accrued but unused vacation, PTO, or personal holidays for these above-described purposes.

At the start of each calendar year, every non-benefitted employee who work more than thirty (30) days in a year is eligible for sick pay. Non-benefitted employees receive and may take up to twenty-four (24) hours of sick pay during the calendar year. Any unused sick pay days will not be carried into a new calendar year given that non-benefitted employees receive a new twenty-four (24) hours of sick pay at the start of each new calendar year on January 1. Available and unused sick pay days will be reflected on your pay stubs.

Eligible employees may use paid sick leave in no less than two (2) hour increments. If you have no sick time available, time off that is taken will be deducted from your available accrued vacation balance, if any. When employment ends, no unused sick pay will be paid to you. Unplanned absences due to illness or injury on a regular scheduled workday will be charged to sick leave and may not be substituted for a vacation day or personal holiday, if applicable.

Written verification from a doctor that an employee is unable to work may be required for any absence longer than three days. Employees who are absent for longer than three (3) days may be ineligible to return to work until they provide a doctor's certificate that allows them to return to work. Additionally, three (3) days of absence from the workplace without notification will be deemed a job abandonment and may result in your immediate dismissal.

Eligible employees may use sick pay to supplement other disability related benefits. For example, you may use sick pay to make up the difference between the compensation you receive from state disability benefits and your regular wages, until your accumulated sick pay is used up.

[Holidays](#)

The President of the University establishes the academic work days and holidays for the University, and CSUSM Corporation observes the same holidays. If classes are scheduled on a particular holiday, the President may reschedule the holiday to be observed on a different day. In order to qualify for holiday pay, eligible employees must be employed and on paid status with CSUSM Corporation on the date that the holiday is actually observed, as established by the University's academic calendar. Paid status is defined as performing work or taking paid leave any time during the pay period.

The following days are observed as holidays, although they may be actually observed on a different date: January 1st; Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday; Lincoln's Birthday; Washington's Birthday; Cesar Chavez's Birthday, Memorial Day; July 4th; Labor Day; Admissions Day; Columbus Day; Veterans' Day; Thanksgiving Day; December 25th.

Holiday pay will be paid on a pro rata basis to eligible employees who are regularly scheduled to work fewer than eight hours per day. Employees must report all holidays on their timecards.

In some instances, employees may have their vacation or PTO leave assigned during the closure of the campus between December 25 and January 1. For instance, if an exempt (salaried) employee does not work any time during the work week that the campus is closed and the employee does not have enough holiday and/or personal holiday hours to cover the week, we will assign vacation or PTO for those days or partial days unless the employee advises payroll in advance that they do not want their vacation or PTO utilized for this purpose.

Working on Scheduled Holidays

Some situations may arise whereby it will be necessary for an employee to work on a scheduled holiday. Prior approval from the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources must be obtained before any CSUSM Corporation employee works on a scheduled holiday. If a non-exempt (hourly) employee is approved to work on a scheduled holiday and is eligible for holiday pay, the employee is to be compensated for both the holiday and the actual hours of work at the employee's regular rate of pay, unless the employee has indicated they would like the option of taking a future day off. If a future day off is chosen, the employee must take the time off with pay within forty-five (45) days of the holiday. Prior approval, from the head of Human Resources must be obtained before any option for a future paid holiday is given to the employee.

[Personal Holiday](#)

In addition to the thirteen (13) holidays observed by CSUSM Corporation, eligible employees receive Personal Holiday time each year. Personal Holiday is available for all eligible employees to use as of January 1 of each year and must be used by December 31. The Personal Holiday is capped at a day and one-half (1 ½) each year and it must be used in one full day increment (eight (8) hours) and one-half day increment (four (4) hours). Once you accrue personal holiday, you may not accrue anymore personal holidays until that day and one half is used. Once you use that day and one half, you will be eligible to accrue a new day and one-half of personal holiday the following year.

Personal Holiday time will be paid on a pro rata basis to eligible employees who are regularly scheduled to work fewer than eight (8) hours per day. Additionally, all accrued but unused Personal Holiday time will be paid at the time of separation at the employee's current rate of pay.

[Unemployment Insurance](#)

All employees are covered by unemployment insurance which provides payment to an eligible individual who is unemployed through no fault of the employee, physically able to work and available to accept and actively seek employment as directed. CSUSM Corporation pays the entire premium for this insurance for our employees.

[Workers' Compensation Insurance](#)

All employees and volunteers are covered by CSUSM Corporation's Workers' Compensation Insurance. The cost of the insurance is borne by CSUSM Corporation with no cost to the employee. The purpose of Workers' Compensation is to assist employees who have suffered a job-related injury or illness. If

you are injured on the job or incur a work-related illness, please contact your supervisor and the CSUSM Corporation Human Resources office immediately in addition to seeking medical treatment with follow-up care as required.

[State Disability Insurance](#)

All of our employees are covered under the State Disability Insurance plan which provides benefits in the event you need to miss work due to a non-work-related accident or illness. A small percentage of your wages will be deducted each pay period for disability insurance. Benefits will begin from the first day you are hospitalized or after the seventh day of illness or accident if you are not hospitalized.

An employee must file a claim with the Employment Development Department (EDD) to receive any benefits. Claim forms for California State Disability benefits can be requested from your nearest EDD office or online at <http://www.edd.ca.gov/>.

[Paid Family Leave](#)

Employees may be eligible for Paid Family Leave (PFL) wage replacement benefits, which are funded through payroll deductions and coordinated through the Employment Development Department (EDD). PFL provides limited compensation for up to six (6) weeks when an employee needs to take leave to care for a parent, child, spouse, or domestic partner who is seriously ill, or for a working parent who wants time to bond with his or her newborn. As of July 1, 2020, PFL provides limited compensation for up to eight (8) weeks. The PFL program does not provide employees with a right to time off or a leave of absence; it is limited to a state-mandated wage replacement benefit. For additional information, please contact CSUSM Corporation Human Resources for an informational brochure concerning your rights under this law and review this Handbook regarding your eligibility for a leave of absence. Please visit the website at https://www.edd.ca.gov/Disability/Paid_Family_Leave.htm.

[Parking](#)

All employees who wish to park their vehicles on campus or on State-leased property must purchase a parking permit through CSUSM Parking Services. Contact CSUSM Corporation Human Resources about how to obtain a pass.

Parking regulations for CSUSM are enforced by University Police. Citations issued to CSUSM Corporation employees by University Police are the responsibility of the employee. CSUSM Corporation is not responsible for any loss or damage to employee vehicles or contents while parked on campus or State-leased property. Employees who are issued a parking permit through CSUSM Corporation, and have their parking fees deducted by payroll, must return the permit to the CSUSM Corporation Human Resources immediately upon separation of employment.

Leaves of Absence

Family & Medical Leave

Under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (“FMLA”) and the California Family Rights Act (“CFRA”), eligible employees are entitled to take medical leave and family care leave up to a combined total of 12 weeks in any 12-month period.

Eligible Employees

To qualify for a medical leave or family care leave, an employee must have worked for CSUSM Corporation for at least 12 months and must have provided at least 1,250 hours of service during the 12-month period prior to beginning each leave.

Reasons for Leave

Eligible employees may take medical leave or family care leave for the following reasons:

1. For the birth of a child or the placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care;
2. To care for a spouse, child, or parent who has a serious health condition; or
3. For the employee’s own, serious health condition if the employee is unable to perform the essential functions of his or her job.

A “serious health condition” means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves: (1) inpatient care in a hospital, hospice or residential health care facility; or (2) continuing treatment or continuing supervision by a health care provider that also requires an absence from work, school or other regular daily activities of more than three (3) days.

Duration of Leave

Eligible employees are entitled to take family care and medical leave of absence up to a combined total of 12 weeks in a 12-month period. Computation of the leave period starts with the first date covered after leave begins. Leave for the birth, adoption or foster placement of a child must conclude within one calendar year of the actual birth, adoption or placement. If both parents work for CSUSM Corporation, the parents’ combined leave for the birth or placement of a child may not exceed 12 weeks during any 12-month period. An eligible employee may take intermittent leave or may work a reduced work schedule for a serious health condition of the employee’s child, parent, spouse or of the employee when medically necessary and if certified by a health care provider. If the need for the leave or intermittent leave is foreseeable, the employee should consult with CSUSM Corporation and make a reasonable effort to schedule any

planned treatment in cooperation with CSUSM Corporation, if possible, in order to minimize disruption to the workplace.

Benefits during Leave

Group health insurance coverage will continue for eligible employees taking family care or medical leave under this policy under the same terms and conditions that applied before the leave commenced. To continue health insurance coverage, the employee must continue to make any premium contributions that he or she was required to make prior to taking leave. Premium payments are due monthly and should be made payable to CSUSM Corporation and delivered to the CSUSM Corporation Human Resources office. If an employee fails to pay his or her portion within 30 days of the due date of a premium, his or her health insurance coverage may be canceled. In such cases, employees will be notified at least 15 days before coverage terminates.

Employees on family care or medical leave do not accrue vacation or PTO during any pay period where no time is worked. Vacation and PTO will begin accruing when the employee returns to work. Holiday Pay will be paid to any employee that is on a family care or medical leave and who is on paid status for the pay period in which the holiday occurs. An employee who takes a family or medical care leave of absence will not lose any seniority earned prior to the commencement of family care or medical leave.

Coordination of Benefits

Family care and medical leaves are unpaid. An employee who is granted a family or medical care leave of absence must utilize any accrued but unused paid time off benefits (i.e., vacation and PTO) during the period of the leave. Any portion of a leave that occurs after all paid time off benefits have been exhausted will be without pay.

Any unpaid or paid portions of this policy shall be added together and will not extend the 12-week total leave period limitation allowed under the family leave and medical leave policy.

Notice Requirements

Employees who need to take family care or medical leave should contact the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources as soon as they learn of the need for leave, even when they do not know the precise dates that leave will begin. If leave is foreseeable, at least 30 days' notice is required. For events that are not foreseeable 30 days in advance, but are not emergencies, the employee must give notice within 2 working days of learning of the need for the leave. If CSUSM Corporation determines that the notice was inadequate and that the employee knew of the need for leave in advance of the request, it may require the employee to delay his or her leave. If circumstances of the leave change and the employee is able to return to work earlier than indicated, the employee is required to notify CSUSM Corporation Human Resources at least 2 working days prior to the date he or she intends to return to work. Similarly, if an employee learns he or she will be unable to return to work on the date previously indicated, the employee is responsible for applying for an extension and furnishing a medical recertification for an extension, prior to the date that the leave expires.

Medical Certification

An employee taking leave for the serious health condition of a family member or for his or her own serious health must provide CSUSM Corporation with certification from a health care provider on CSUSM Corporation's form, within 15 calendar days of CSUSM Corporation's request. Failure to provide a satisfactory medical certification may result in the denial of leave.

In cases of a leave for the serious condition of an employee, CSUSM Corporation may require the medical opinion of a second health care provider. A second opinion would be sought by CSUSM Corporation at its own expense, to substantiate the medical certification. If the second opinion is different from the first, CSUSM Corporation may require the opinion of a third health care provider (also at its own expense) jointly approved by both CSUSM Corporation and the employee. The opinion of the third health care provider will be binding on both CSUSM Corporation and the employee.

If an employee requests an extension of leave beyond the time estimated by the health care provider, CSUSM Corporation will require recertification of the employee's or the family member's serious health condition. CSUSM Corporation also requires employees taking leave for their own serious health condition to present a *fitness-for-duty certification* before returning to work.

Outside Employment

You may not be employed with any employer, other than CSUSM Corporation, during your leave of absence. Outside employment during your leave will result in immediate termination.

Reinstatement

When an employee is able to return to work, he or she should give CSUSM Corporation at least two (2) weeks' notice. This is important so that the employee's return to work is properly scheduled. Under most circumstances, CSUSM Corporation will reinstate employees to their former or equivalent position if they return from leave within 12 weeks. Exceptions, however, may occur as permitted by law. For example, CSUSM Corporation cannot guarantee reinstatement if the employee is a salaried employee and among the highest paid ten percent of all employees within a 75 mile radius and reinstatement would cause substantial and grievous economic injury, or if the employee would have been subject to layoff or job elimination had the employee not taken leave. Employees should also understand that they have no greater right to reinstatement or to other benefits of employment than if they had continued to work during their leave.

Employees who do not return to work immediately upon the expiration of an approved leave of absence or within the maximum period allowed for the family and medical leave will be considered to have voluntarily terminated from CSUSM Corporation.

Military Care Giver Leave (Part of FMLA)

For employees who are eligible for leave under the FMLA (above), the CSUSM Corporation provides those employees up to 26 weeks of leave during a 12-month period to care for spouse,

child, parent, or next of kin who is a member of the Armed Forces, National Guard, or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness incurred in the line of duty on active duty.

The maximum amount of leave for any FMLA-qualifying reason that may be taken in any 12-month period is 26 weeks, provided that no more than 12 weeks of leave may be taken for any FMLA-qualifying reason other than Military Caregiver Leave.

Military Caregiver leave is taken under the same terms and conditions as Family and Medical Leave, set forth above.

Qualifying Exigency Leave (Part of FMLA)

For employees who are eligible for leave under the FMLA (above), the CSUSM Corporation provides those employees up to 12 weeks of leave during a 12-month period to assist a spouse, son, daughter, or parent on active military duty or who is called to active military in support of a contingency operation, to manage their affairs and to address certain exigencies while the family member is on active duty. Such exigencies include:

- Short Notice Deployment
- Military Events and Related Activities
- Childcare and School Activities
- Financial and Legal Arrangements
- Counseling
- Rest and Recuperation
- Post-Deployment Activities
- Additional activities not encompassed in the other categories but agreed to by the employer and employee.

The CSUSM Corporation requires certification that the family member is a member of the National Guard or Reserves who is on active duty or has been called to active duty in support of a contingency operation (i.e. active duty orders); and requires a written statement from the employee (including available support documentation) about the nature and details of the specific exigency, the amount of leave needed, and the employee's relationship to the military member. Qualifying Exigency leave is taken under the same terms and conditions as Family and Medical Leave, set forth above.

[Military Service Leave of Absence](#)

The CSUSM Corporation is committed to protecting the job rights of employees absent on military leave. In accordance with federal and state law, it is the CSUSM Corporation's policy that no employee or prospective employee will be subjected to any form of discrimination on the basis of that person's membership in or obligation to perform service for any of the Uniformed Services of the United States.

Any employee who serves in the Armed Forces, the Army National Guard, and Air National Guard for training or active service is entitled to a leave of absence.

Reinstatement Based on Duration

- If service is less than 31 days or for the purpose of taking an examination to determine fitness for service, the employee must report for reemployment at the beginning of the first full regularly scheduled working period on the first calendar day following completion of service and the expiration of eight hours after a time for safe transportation back to the employee's residence.
- If service is for more than 30 days but less than 181 days, the employee must submit an application for reemployment with Human Resources no later than 14 days following the completion of service.
- If service is more 180 days, the employee must submit an application for reemployment with Human Resources no later than 90 days following the completion of service.
- If the employee is hospitalized or convalescing from a service-connected injury, the employee must submit an application for reemployment with Human Resources no later than two years following completion of service.
- Reinstatement of an employee returning from military leave will not be made when circumstances have so changed as to make reinstatement impossible, unreasonable, if reinstatement would impose an undue hardship on the CSUSM Corporation, or if the employee's employment was for such a brief, nonrecurrent period that there is no reasonable expectation that such reinstatement would have continued indefinitely or for a significant period.

Benefits

If service is less than 30 days (paid or unpaid status), health benefits will continue uninterrupted.

Required Documentation

Employees must submit written verification from the appropriate military authority. Upon return, employees must submit a certificate of satisfactory completion of service.

[Pregnancy Leave](#)

All employees are eligible to take an unpaid leave of absence for their own disability caused by pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions.

Duration of Leave

Pregnancy-related disability leave may be taken for the duration of the disability up to 4 months for each pregnancy. At the end of the employee's period of pregnancy disability (not to exceed 4 months), employees who are also eligible for a family care and medical leave, as described above, may take a leave up to 12-weeks for reasons of the birth of her child. The maximum possible combined leave for both family care and medical leave and pregnancy disability leave for the reason of the birth of the child is 4 months and 12 weeks. This assumes that the employee is disabled by childbirth or related

medical conditions for 4 months and then requests, and is eligible, for a 12-week family leave for the reason of the birth of her child. Pregnancy-related disability leave is counted towards an employee's FMLA entitlement (but not the employee's CFRA entitlement).

Transfer and Accommodation

An employee is also entitled to a temporary transfer to another position or other reasonable accommodation based on the pregnancy-related disability so long as (1) the employee requests the transfer or reasonable accommodation and the request is based on the medical certification of a health care provider that a transfer or reasonable accommodation is medically advisable, and (2) the request can be reasonably accommodated by CSUSM Corporation. Employees who are transferred to accommodate a pregnancy-related disability possess the same reinstatement and other rights described below with respect to pregnancy-related disability leaves.

CSUSM Corporation may also require an employee to transfer temporarily to an available alternative position with the same pay and benefits in order to accommodate an employee's need for intermittent leave or a reduced work schedule.

Benefits during Leave

Group health insurance coverage will continue for eligible employees taking a pregnancy-related disability leave under this policy under the same terms and conditions that applied before the leave commenced. To continue health insurance coverage, the employee must continue to make any premium contributions that she was required to make prior to taking leave. Premium payments are due monthly and should be made payable to CSUSM Corporation and delivered to the CSUSM Corporation Human Resources office. If an employee fails to pay her portion within 30 days of the due date of a premium, her health insurance coverage may be canceled. In such cases, the employee will be notified at least 15 days before coverage terminates.

Employees on pregnancy-related disability leave do not accrue vacation or PTO during any pay period where no time is worked. Vacation and PTO will begin accruing when the employee returns to work. Holiday Pay will be paid to any employee that is on a pregnancy-related leave and who is on paid status for the pay period in which the holiday occurs. An employee who takes a family or medical care leave of absence will not lose any seniority earned prior to the commencement of family care or medical leave.

An employee who takes a pregnancy-related disability leave of absence will not lose any seniority earned prior to the commencement of her leave.

Coordination of Benefits

Pregnancy-related disability leaves are unpaid. An employee who is granted a pregnancy-related disability leave may elect to use any accrued but unused paid time off benefits (i.e. vacation or PTO) during the period of the leave. Any portion of a leave that occurs after all paid time off benefits have been exhausted is without pay. Any unpaid or paid portions of this policy shall be added together and will not extend the 4-month total leave period limitation allowed under this pregnancy-related disability leave policy.

Medical Certification

An employee requesting pregnancy-related disability leave must provide medical certification that she is disabled by pregnancy. Medical certification is required under the same conditions as is required for family care and medical leaves of absence, as described above. An employee taking a pregnancy-related disability leave must notify CSUSM Corporation when her doctor takes her off of disability leave; and must also present a *fitness for duty certification* before returning to work.

Notice

Employees should contact their supervisor as soon as they learn that they will need a pregnancy-related disability leave, even when they do not know the precise dates that such leave will begin.

Employees must provide at least 30 days' notice when the need for pregnancy-related disability leave is foreseeable. If the need for leave is not foreseeable, notice must be given to CSUSM Corporation within two business days of learning of the need for the leave.

Employees must indicate the estimated timing and duration of the leave and make a reasonable effort to schedule any planned medical treatment so as to minimize the disruption of CSUSM Corporation's activities.

If an employee requests an extension of leave beyond the time estimated by the health care provider, the employee must submit a recertification prior to the expiration date if the employee desires additional leave. Extensions will not be granted that cause the total period of the pregnancy-related disability leave to exceed the 4-month limitation.

Outside Employment

You may not be employed with any employer, other than CSUSM Corporation, during your leave of absence. Outside employment during your leave will result in immediate termination.

Reinstatement

When an employee is able to return to work, he or she should give CSUSM Corporation at least two (2) weeks' notice. This is important so that the employee's return to work is properly scheduled.

Under most circumstances, CSUSM Corporation will reinstate employees to their former or equivalent position if they return from leave within 4 months. Exceptions, however, may occur as permitted by law. Employees should understand that they have no greater right to reinstatement or to other benefits of employment than if they had continued to work during their leave. For example, an employee will not be reinstated to the same position where (1) she would not otherwise have been employed in the same position due to legitimate business reasons unrelated to her taking leave (such as layoff or job elimination), or (2) the means of preserving the job would substantially undermine CSUSM Corporation's ability to operate its business safely and efficiently. In such cases, the employee will be placed in a comparable position for which the employee is qualified unless (1) no comparable position is available within 10 working days of the employee's return to work, or (2) filling the comparable position with the employee would substantially

undermine CSUSM Corporation's ability to operate its business safely and efficiently. Employees who fail to return to work at the conclusion of their approved leave or within the maximum period allowed for the leave will be considered to have voluntarily terminated from CSUSM Corporation.

Personal Leave

After an employee has completed at least six months of employment, an unpaid personal leave of absence for a specified period of time that is no longer than 30 days may be granted, at CSUSM Corporation's discretion. Requests for a personal leave of absence must be presented in writing to the Head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources at least 30 days in advance, whenever possible. Your request will be considered on the basis of our staffing requirements, the reasons for the leave, as well as your performance and attendance record. In no case will a leave of absence be granted for a period that extends beyond the expiration date specified on the employee's appointment form, or the end of a grant or contract year, whichever comes first.

Coordination of Benefits

Personal leaves are unpaid. An employee who is granted a personal leave of absence must utilize any accrued but unused paid time off benefits (i.e., vacation and PTO) during the period of the leave. Any portion of a leave that occurs after all paid time off benefits have been exhausted will be without pay.

Employees on personal leave do not accrue vacation or PTO during any pay period where no time is worked. Vacation and PTO will begin accruing when the employee returns to work. Holiday Pay will NOT be paid to any employee that is on a personal leave. An employee who takes a personal leave of absence will not lose any seniority earned prior to the commencement of the leave.

CSUSM Corporation will not pay insurance premiums while an employee is on a personal leave of absence. Should you desire to maintain insurance coverage while on a personal leave of absence, you will have the option of continuing your insurance coverage by paying the full monthly insurance premiums.

Reinstatement

Before you return to work, you should notify the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources when you are ready to return to work at least two weeks before the expiration of your leave. The Head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources will notify you if an opening exists. CSUSM Corporation cannot guarantee reemployment to employees returning from a personal leave of absence.

The following will be deemed a voluntary resignation while you are on a personal leave of absence:

1. Failure to advise CSUSM Corporation of your availability to work;
2. Application for unemployment benefits;
3. Obtaining another position;
4. Engaging in another business;
5. Failure to return to work when notified; or

6. Your continued absence from work beyond the time approved by CSUSM Corporation (unless your time off becomes a different kind of approved leave).

Bereavement Leave

When a death occurs in the employee's immediate family which necessitates his/her losing regularly scheduled work time due to bereavement, Regular and Part-time and/or Temporary employees who qualify for all other leave benefits will be compensated for a maximum of five (5) days for such lost work. All other employees are not eligible for paid bereavement, although they may request the leave on an unpaid basis. Immediate family means parents, legal guardian, spouse, spouse's parents, registered domestic partner, children, brothers, brothers-in-law, sisters, sisters-in-law, grandparents, grandparents-in-law, other dependent family members, or significant others living in the employee's household.

Any additional time requested beyond five (5) days must be approved by a supervisor and may be charged against the employee's vacation and/or PTO accruals or the employee may request the leave without pay.

Eligible employees must record the Bereavement Leave time on their corresponding timecard in order to receive the appropriate compensation.

Jury & Court Duty

It is CSUSM Corporation's policy to enable its employees to fulfill their civic obligations. If called for jury duty, notify your supervisor immediately and submit notice, summons or subpoena from the court to CSUSM Corporation's head of Human Resources or their designee no later than ten (10) days before starting jury or witness duty.

Eligibility and Pay

Regular Central Staff and Agency¹ employees called to jury duty after completing one year of service as a regular employee are eligible for up to five (5) days of paid jury duty benefits per year. All other employees, including employees working on grant, contract or gift funds (normally referred to as Project Employees²), and all part-time and/or temporary or student employees are not eligible for paid jury duty benefits. All employees in all categories may serve on jury duty on an unpaid basis and salaried employees will not have their salaries reduced as a result of serving on jury duty.

¹ **Agency Employees** are those who work for an agency whose primary source of income is fees or donations. An example of an agency within CSUSM Corporation is the American Language and Culture Institute (ALCI).

² **Central Staff Employees** are those under the direction/supervision of CSUSM Corporation's Executive Director and are not funded from a grant, contract or gift.

³ **Project Employees** are those employed on a research or other project funded through a private, state or federal grant or contract.

In addition, any amount of paid Jury Duty you receive, less mileage or parking fees paid by the court, must be returned to CSUSM Corporation as a condition of you receiving this leave benefit.

Work Attendance

Evidence of jury duty attendance must be presented to CSUSM Corporation Human Resources. This is normally a time record sheet provided by the Clerk of the Court. This record is necessary to authorize paid time off from CSUSM Corporation, and it is necessary to verify that your time off is excused. In those circumstances where no evidence is provided, an employee may be required to use accrued vacation, PTO, personal holiday, or may take leave without pay. The employee should continue to report for work on those days or parts of days when excused from jury duty or when jury duty does not conflict with his/her work.

[Witness Duty](#)

An employee who is required by law to appear in court as a witness may take unpaid time off for such purpose provided, they give CSUSM Corporation reasonable advance notice.

[Time off for Parents](#)

If you are a parent, guardian, step parent, foster parent, grandparents or person standing “in loco parentis” having custody of one or more children in kindergarten, or in grades 1 through 12, you may take time off of up to 40 hours per year to attend authorized school activities or activities of a licensed child care provider, which involve one or more of your school-age children. Such activities may also include time off to find or enroll your child in school or with a licensed childcare provider. To be eligible for parental time off, you must obtain from the school or from the licensed childcare provider, written verification that you attended or participated in the activity. Parental time off may not exceed eight hours in any calendar month, unless the time is spent addressing issues related to a childcare provider or a school emergency.

You may use any accrued but unpaid vacation, PTO, or a personal holiday while you attend your child’s school activities. If not, your parental time off will be unpaid. For scheduling purposes, you must notify your supervisor at least one week before the date of the school activity, so that your work duties may be covered. If both parents are employed by CSUSM Corporation, the first employee to request such leave will receive the time off. The other parent will receive the time off only if the leave is approved by his or her supervisor.

[Organ & Bone Marrow Donor Leave](#)

CSUSM Corporation provides employees with paid leave for the purpose of donating organs or bone marrow. When donating an organ to another person, an employee may take up to 30 business days in any one-year period and may take an additional 30 days of unpaid leave to donate an organ to another person within the one-year period. When donating bone marrow, an employee may take up to 5 business days in any one-year period. The one-year period for the leaves under this policy is measured from the date that the employee begins his or her leave.

Employees who wish to take leave to donate an organ or bone marrow are required to provide as much advance notice as possible and must provide CSUSM Corporation Human Resources with

verification from a physician that the donation will take place and that there is a medical necessity for the donation. While this leave is paid, employees must first use up to 10 days accrued sick, personal time off (PTO), or vacation time when donating an organ, or up to 5 days accrued sick, PTO, or vacation time when donating bone marrow. Leave taken under this policy does not constitute a break in service for things like healthcare insurance coverage, accrual of PTO, vacation, or sick pay, or seniority, but this leave shall not run concurrently with an eligible employee's FMLA or CFRA leave.

Under most circumstances, an employee returning from leave under this policy will be reinstated to the same or equivalent position; however, employees have no greater right to reinstatement than if they had been continuously employed during the leave. For example, if the employee would have been laid off had he/she not gone on leave, or if the position is eliminated during the leave, then he/she will not be entitled to reinstatement.

[Voting Time](#)

Employees who are unable to vote during non-work hours may arrange in advance to take up to two hours off from work with pay to vote in a public election. These two hours must be taken at either the beginning or the end of the workday. In order to qualify, you must obtain approval from your supervisor at least two working days in advance.

[Time Off for Victims of Domestic Violence](#)

CSUSM Corporation is concerned about those of its employees who may become victims of domestic violence. For that reason, CSUSM Corporation permits employees who become victims of domestic violence to take time off to obtain a restraining order, medical treatment, psychological counseling, assistance from a shelter or similar organization, or to obtain relief to help ensure the health, safety or welfare of the employee or of the employee's child(ren), including time off to participate in safety planning. Employees may use their unused vacation or PTO when taking time off due to domestic violence; otherwise the time off will be unpaid.

Employees who take time off under this policy must provide CSUSM Corporation with advance notice of the need to take time off, including the date and length of time off that is required. CSUSM Corporation will maintain the confidentiality of any employee requesting time off under this policy. In addition to advance notice, CSUSM Corporation also requires certification of time off due to domestic violence. Certification may be in the form of a police report, court order, or official documentation from a medical professional, counselor, or social services advocate. Failure to provide the required certification may result in a denial of the requested time off.

Employees who are victims of domestic violence also should be concerned about how their domestic situation might impact employees of CSUSM Corporation. That is why employees who obtain restraining orders as the result of domestic violence should provide a copy of the restraining order to CSUSM Corporation's Head of Human Resources, as well as a photograph and a description of the individual who is being restrained.

[Victims of Crime Leave](#)

An employee who is themselves a victim or who is the family member of a victim of a violent felony, stalking, or serious felony may take time off from work under the following circumstances:

- The crime must be a violent or serious felony, as defined by law; and
- You must be the victim of a crime or of stalking

If you are not the victim of a violent crime or stalking, you must be an immediate family member of a victim to qualify for this type of leave. An immediate family member under this policy includes: a spouse, domestic partner, child, stepchild, brother, stepbrother, sister, stepsister, mother, stepmother, father or stepfather. A domestic partner means a domestic partner who is registered in accordance with California state law.

The absence from work must be in order to attend judicial proceedings related to a crime listed above. Before you are absent for such a reason, you must provide documentation of the scheduled proceeding. Such notice is typically given to the victim of the crime by a court or government agency setting the hearing, a district attorney or prosecuting attorney's office or a victim/witness office. If advance notice is not possible, you must provide appropriate documentation within a reasonable time after the absence.

Any absence from work to attend judicial proceedings will be unpaid, unless you choose to take paid time off, such as accrued vacation or personal holiday.

[Volunteer Civil Service Personnel](#)

Employees also may take time off to perform emergency duty as a volunteer firefighter, peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel. You are also eligible for unpaid leave for required training. If you are an official volunteer firefighter, please alert your supervisor that you may have to take time off for emergency duty. When taking time off for emergency duty, please alert your supervisor before doing so when possible.

[General Use of PTO And Vacation Pay for Unpaid Time Off](#)

Employees are required to use all available PTO / Vacation when taking an unpaid leave. That means that employees must exhaust any accrued but unused PTO or vacation pay before taking unpaid time off. Exceptions to this requirement are included in the leave descriptions for FMLA, CFRA, and Pregnancy Disability Leave.

General Policies

Professional Expectations

CSUSM Corporation is committed to enhancing job satisfaction by creating a cooperative and productive work environment for all employees. In turn, all employees must meet certain performance expectations, including timely and regular attendance, dependable application of time while at work, satisfactory completion of all duties; and they are expected to present a positive and professional appearance.

General Rules of Conduct

Our employees are expected to treat each other with dignity and respect and to abide by certain rules of conduct, based on honesty, good taste, fair play, and safety. Conduct that is immoral, unethical, or illegal will not be tolerated by CSUSM Corporation. Although it is not possible to provide an exhaustive list of all types of impermissible conduct, the following are examples of some, but not all, conduct that will lead to disciplinary action, up to and including termination:

1. Falsification of employment records, employment information or other CSUSM Corporation records.
2. Committing a fraudulent act or a breach of trust under any circumstances.
3. Soliciting or accepting gratuities from customers or clients.
4. Recording the work time of another employee or allowing any other employee to record your work time, or allowing falsification of any timecard, either your own or another employee's.
5. Theft of, deliberate or careless damage or destruction of any of CSUSM Corporation's or the University's property or the property of any employee or customer.
6. Failing to maintain the confidentiality of CSUSM Corporation, its employees, agents or customers.
7. Unauthorized use or removal of CSUSM Corporation's or the University's property, equipment, time, materials, or facilities.
8. Gambling on CSUSM Corporation's premises. Harassing other employees or customers.
9. Provoking a fight or fighting during working hours or while on CSUSM Corporation's or the University's premises.
10. Participating in horseplay or practical jokes on CSUSM Corporation's time or while on CSUSM Corporation's or the University's premises.
11. Carrying firearms or any other dangerous weapons while on CSUSM Corporation's or the University's premises at any time.

12. Causing, creating or participating in a disruption of any kind during working hours on CSUSM Corporation's or the University's property.
13. Insubordination including, but not limited to, failure or refusal to obey the orders or instructions of a supervisor or member of management, or the use of abusive or threatening language toward a co-worker, supervisor, member of management, or customer.
14. Violation of the CSUSM Corporation's Attendance and Punctuality policy including excessive absenteeism/tardiness or failure to comply with the notification procedures.
15. Unreported absence of three consecutive scheduled workdays.
16. Abuse of leaves of absence or other time off.
17. Failure to obtain permission to leave work for any reason during normal working hours.
18. Failure to observe working schedules, including rest and meal periods.
19. Working overtime without authorization or refusing to work assigned overtime.
20. Failure to provide a physician's certificate when requested or required to do so.
21. Sleeping or malingering on the job.
22. Making or accepting excessive personal telephone calls during working hours, except in cases of emergency.
23. Unsatisfactory work performance.
24. Employees should use good taste and judgment in determining their appearance, hygiene habits and dress. A neat and clean appearance is our standard.
25. Reporting to work intoxicated or under the influence of non-prescribed drugs.
26. Manufacturing, possessing, using, selling, distributing or transporting non-prescribed drugs.
27. Bringing or using alcoholic beverages on CSUSM Corporation's premises is prohibited unless approved by the President of the campus or his/her designee.
28. Failing to report accidents, breakage or damage to equipment that occurs when an employee is assigned to use such equipment.
29. Violation of any safety, health, security or policies, rules or procedures of CSUSM Corporation or the University.
30. Failure to follow CSUSM Corporation's policies as outlined in this Handbook or any newly instituted policies.

Discipline may be initiated for various reasons. The severity of the action generally depends on the nature of the offense and the employee's past record and may range from written warnings to immediate dismissal. CSUSM Corporation reserves the absolute right to initiate the form of discipline it deems to be appropriate. Nothing in this policy alters CSUSM Corporation's policy of at-will employment. Either CSUSM Corporation or an employee may terminate the employment relationship at any time and for any reason.

[Off-Duty Use of Facilities](#)

Employees are prohibited from making use of CSUSM Corporation facilities while not on duty. Employees are expressly prohibited from using CSUSM Corporation facilities, property, or equipment for personal use.

[Voice-Mail, E-Mail and Computer Systems Access](#)

CSUSM Corporation's computer systems, voice-mail, electronic mail (e-mail), and its access to the Internet enable employees to access and exchange information quickly and efficiently. When used properly, we believe these resources greatly enhance employee productivity and knowledge. In many respects, these new tools are similar to other tools, such as stationery, file cabinets, photocopiers, and telephones. Voicemail, e-mail and computer systems and files used by CSUSM Corporation are provided solely to further CSUSM Corporation's business operations. These systems and the information stored in them belong to CSUSM Corporation; therefore, employees should have no expectation of privacy with regard to information that is placed or included in the Organization's systems. Although employee passwords may be used for CSUSM Corporation-oriented security reasons, the use of such passwords is not intended to assure employees those messages or other communications generated by or stored on these systems will be kept confidential. CSUSM Corporation maintains the right to access these systems and to retrieve information stored therein at any time, and all employee passwords must be made known to CSUSM Corporation upon demand by CSUSM Corporation's Executive Director or Designee. Further, CSUSM Corporation reserves the right to monitor, review or access, at any time, information revealing an employee's Internet usage, including websites accessed or any information that may have been downloaded. Consequently, CSUSM Corporation's voicemail, e-mail, and computer systems, including the Internet, should be used primarily for business purposes.

Once again, employees should bear in mind that messages and all other data stored on CSUSM Corporation's voicemail, e-mail and computer systems is subject to access by CSUSM Corporation at any time. We therefore ask you to exercise good judgment in using these systems.

Guidelines for Use

This section sets forth guidelines concerning the appropriate use of CSUSM Corporation's voicemail, e-mail and computer systems.

- Since voicemail and e-mail messages, as well as other computer-stored data, are considered business records and may be electronically retrieved, even after you "delete" them, nothing should be included in a voicemail or e-mail message that you would not consider putting in a memorandum, or saying in person.
- Employees should delete unwanted voicemail and e-mail messages as soon as practical and should log off when not using the computer system.
- Employees should exercise good judgment in the use of e-mail distribution lists; these lists are developed for the convenience of the addressees and unnecessary or frivolous messages should not be sent, thereby cluttering up user screens.
- Employees should not use a password, access a file, or retrieve or download any stored communication without express authorization. You also should not send e-mail or

other communications that either mask your identity or indicate that someone else sent them, and you should never access another employee's voicemail, e-mail, or computer systems without express authorization.

- Employees may not install any software on CSUSM Corporation computer systems without the prior authorization of CSUSM Corporation's Executive Director or Designee.

CSUSM Corporation's voicemail, e-mail and computer systems, including the Internet, must not be used for the following purposes:

- Any illegal, discriminatory, threatening, harassing, abusive or offensive comments. For example, the display or transmission of sexually explicit images, messages, and cartoons is not allowed. Other such misuse includes, but is not limited to, ethnic slurs, racial comments, off-color jokes or anything that may be construed as harassment or showing disrespect for others.
- Anything in conjunction with an employee's outside business endeavors or sales of any product or outside service (home products, cosmetics, etc.).
- Messages or other communications violating a CSUSM Corporation policy or contrary to supervisory instructions.
- For the illegal duplication of software and its related documentation. Employees also may not use any software on local area networks or on multiple machines that is not in accordance with the software license agreement.

Employees should notify their immediate supervisor, the network administrator or any member of management upon learning of a violation of this policy. Any violations of these "Guidelines for Use" or other provisions of this policy may result in disciplinary action, including possible termination.

External Access & Confidentiality

Under certain conditions, employees will need to communicate with clients and other external users via voicemail, e-mail and/or via the Internet. Employees are cautioned to exercise an additional level of discretion, professionalism, and sound judgment when communicating with third parties via these systems.

For example, all employees should safeguard CSUSM Corporation's confidential information, as well as that of guests and others, from disclosure. Messages containing confidential information should not be left visible while you are away from your work area. Also, Internet sites maintain logs of visits from users. These logs identify the company and the individual who accessed the Internet website. If your work requires a high level of security, please ask your supervisor for guidance on securely exchanging e-mail or gathering information from Internet sources.

Privacy and Disclosure

As previously noted, CSUSM Corporation's and the University's voicemail, e-mail, and computer systems, including the use of the Internet, are provided to facilitate the conduct of its business.

All messages and other communications generated through and/or stored on these systems are considered business records. Employees who use the voicemail, e-mail and/or computer systems should understand that information stored on these systems cannot be considered confidential or private. Indeed, CSUSM Corporation reserves the right to access any voicemail, e-mail, Internet usage or other computer-stored information at any time.

Acceptable Use Policy – California State University San Marcos (CSUSM)

Access to CSUSM campus and CSUSM Corporation information and information technologies is subject to Acceptable Use, Confidentiality and other policies. These exist in a framework of state and federal laws along with related CSU and campus policies. Campus policies can be found at <http://www.csusm.edu/policies>. A subset of those policies relating to technology can be found at <https://www.csusm.edu/security/program/policiesandstandards/index.html>. Employees are required to sign the Acceptable Use policy as a condition of network access.

Cell Phone (Personal & Business Use)

Personal cell phone usage must not have a negative impact on your performance or be disruptive to those around you. If employee use of a personal cell phone (including text messages), causes disruptions or loss in productivity, the employee may become subject to disciplinary action per company policy.

Use of handheld cell phones, smart phones (text messaging or emailing) or other similar communication devices whether personal or business-owned, while behind the wheel of a moving vehicle being used on CSUSM Corporation business is strictly prohibited. The use of hands-free technology may be warranted and used if the driver has taken the proper steps to ensure they are able to drive safely and use the hands-free device.

If there is a business reason for you to use a cell phone to perform your job, your supervisor may approve you for a corporation assigned cell phone or reimbursement for use of your personal cell phone. Personal cell phones should not be used for business purposes unless you have been approved for reimbursement. Failure to follow this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Social Media

CSUSM Corporation acknowledges the growing popularity of social media as a means for sharing experiences, ideas, and opinions. CSUSM Corporation also strives to protect itself, its employees, and those with whom we do business from the improper or unlawful use of social media.

For purposes of this policy, the phrase “Social Media” refers to any type of internet-based media created through social or group interaction, where individuals primarily produce – rather than consume – the content. Examples of Social Media include, but are not limited to: social and professional networking websites (Facebook, LinkedIn), blogs (Twitter, industry blogs), video and image sharing websites (Instagram, Snapchat, WhatsApp, YouTube, Flickr, Pinterest), location-sharing websites (foursquare), consumer review websites (Yelp), virtual worlds (Second Life), and

social bookmarking websites (Reddit). The lack of reference to a specific Social Media website in this policy does not limit the extent or application of this policy.

Applicability

This policy applies to all employees of CSUSM Corporation during both working and non-working hours, and regardless of whether the employee is using CSUSM Corporation's or the employees' computers, network, internet access, equipment, or technology. Employees must understand that CSUSM Corporation's other employee relations policies – including but not limited to its harassment, discrimination, standards of conduct, and confidentiality policies – apply to online conduct including the use of Social Media.

Keep in mind that an employee's online conduct that violates CSUSM Corporation's policy, that adversely affects you or your fellow employees' job performance, that adversely affects the reputation or brand of CSUSM Corporation's customers, vendors, affiliates, or business partners, or that adversely affects CSUSM Corporation's legitimate business interests may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

That being said, nothing in this Social Media policy is intended to prohibit employees from complying with or exercising their rights under any applicable federal, state, or local law, or from communicating about wages, hours, or other terms and conditions of employment. At the same time, employees should be aware that CSUSM Corporation has an open-door policy and encourages every employee to address such matters with their direct supervisors or with the Executive Director or designee. If you have any questions about this policy or its applicability, please contact CSUSM Corporation Human Resources.

Guidelines

Employees who choose to use Social Media for personal or professional reasons must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Use caution and your best personal and professional judgment when contributing content about or related to CSUSM Corporation, or third parties such as customers, subsidiaries, vendors, affiliates, or business partners.
- Do not engage in behavior or contribute content that could be considered an act or threat of violence, bullying, or unlawful discrimination or harassment.
- Do not intentionally or negligently contribute content that could damage the reputation or brand of CSUSM Corporation or interfere with CSUSM Corporation's business relationships with its customers, subsidiaries, vendors, affiliates, or business partners.
- Employees may not contribute content in the name of CSUSM Corporation, on behalf of CSUSM Corporation, or in a manner that could reasonably be attributed to CSUSM Corporation without prior written authorization from the Executive Director or designee.
- Employees may not contribute content that could be considered an endorsement of CSUSM Corporation's goods or services without prior authorization from the Executive

Director or designee. If you do contribute content that could be considered an endorsement of CSUSM Corporation's goods or services, you must disclose your employment relationship with CSUSM Corporation.

- Do not contribute or disclose any content or information about or related to CSUSM Corporation, its employees, customers, subsidiaries, vendors, affiliates or business partners that you know to be false. Do not disparage or defame CSUSM Corporation's customers, vendors, affiliates, or business partners.
- Do not contribute content that could identify CSUSM Corporation's customers, vendors, affiliates, or business partners without prior consent from CSUSM Corporation.
- If you, as an employee of CSUSM Corporation, have access to proprietary information about CSUSM Corporation and its customers, subsidiaries, vendors, affiliates, or business partners, CSUSM Corporation trusts and expects you to keep this information confidential. You may not disclose it through Social Media. Note that "proprietary" includes CSUSM Corporation's patents, copyrights, trade secrets, inventions, internal processes, policies, reports, source code, computer programs in various stages of development, competitive analysis and strategy, marketing and development plans, potential or actual mergers and acquisitions, customer and client lists, and names of vendors and suppliers.
- Do not use CSUSM Corporation's logos or trademarks for commercial gain without prior consent from the Executive Director or designee.
- Do not use your email address with CSUSM Corporation to register for Social Media. If you indicate that you are an employee of CSUSM Corporation on any Social Media, you must include a disclaimer indicating that the content you contribute is your own, and does not represent the opinion of CSUSM Corporation.
- Do not allow your use of Social Media to interfere with your work commitments, performance, or productivity.
- Consider whether connecting to CSUSM Corporation's customers, business partners, vendors, or competitors via Social Media is appropriate for your level, position, responsibilities within CSUSM Corporation, and relationship with the person at issue. To the extent that you do connect to CSUSM Corporation's customers, business partners, vendors, or competitors via Social Media, consider using available privacy filters or settings to block any inappropriate, unprofessional, or personal content from such people.
- Employees should not speak to the media on CSUSM Corporation's behalf without prior approval from the Executive Director or designee. All media inquiries should be directed there.
- Prior to posting a photograph or quoting written content that someone else has authored, contact the Executive Director or designee to obtain the proper release form and ensure that it is signed.
- Requests for employment references or recommendations through Social Media, such as LinkedIn, should be referred to CSUSM Corporation's Human Resources.

Any violation of any part of this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

[Solicitation and Distribution](#)

Employees should not be disturbed or disrupted in the performance of their job duties. For this reason, solicitation of any kind by an employee of another employee is prohibited while either employee is on working time. Solicitation by non-employees on CSUSM Corporation's premises is prohibited at all times.

Distribution by employees of advertising material, handbills, printed or written literature of any kind in working or public areas of CSUSM Corporation is prohibited at all times. Distribution of literature by non-employees on CSUSM Corporation's premises is prohibited at all times.

[Smoking and Tobacco Use](#)

CSUSM Corporation complies with the University policy of being a smoke, vapor and tobacco free environment. Please refer to the University website for the current policy. Smoking, vaping and tobacco use are prohibited on all University property and in all indoor and outdoor spaces owned, leased, licensed, or otherwise controlled by the University. Smoking, vaping and tobacco use are prohibited in all vehicles owned by the University and CSUSM Corporation as well as privately owned vehicles at any event or activity on campus property including University parking structures. Tobacco cessation resources may be available through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) or student health.

[Safety](#)

It is the policy of CSUSM Corporation to provide a work environment as free as feasible from recognized hazards. You are expected to comply with all safety and health requirements whether they are established by CSUSM Corporation or by federal and/or state law. Any accident that occurs at a CSUSM Corporation worksite be that of a client, visitor, or employee, should be reported **immediately** to your supervisor or to the head of CSUSM Corporation Human Resources. *If your supervisor or other appropriate personnel are not available, call 911 Emergency.* In addition, safety hazards or unsafe conditions that could have caused an injury should be reported. For your own safety and the safety of others, please do not attempt to give medical aid to an injured client, visitor, or fellow employee unless you hold current certification(s) to properly administer first aid. Call the appropriate medical authorities.

After reporting the incident/injury to your immediate supervisor or CSUSM Corporation Human Resources you will then be directed to the following medical care facility for treatment:

Palomar Health
2125 Citracado Parkway, Suite 130
Escondido, CA 92029
760-510-7373

It is our goal to see to it that you are taken care of in case of injury on the job. We will make every effort to see to it that you receive excellent care and have a speedy recovery and return to work. In addition, we have a "Return to Work" and "Light Duty" programs to return you to work if you have specific limitations during your recovery. Please refer to our Injury and Illness Prevention

Plan (“IIPP”) which is on file in the CSUSM Corporation Central Office for further information regarding employee safety, and for injury reporting procedures see our website at <http://www.csusm.edu/corp>

In addition, CSUSM Corporation also requires that work areas be kept clean and orderly at all times. You are responsible for maintaining your work area in a clean and orderly fashion at all times. CSUSM Corporation will attempt to maintain the temperature, lighting, and noise level of its facilities at a level that is comfortable for employees yet appropriate for the nature of our operations. You should inform your supervisor of any concerns about working conditions.

[Emergency Evacuation Plans](#)

In the unfortunate event that there is an earthquake, fire, or other worksite emergency, CSUSM Corporation has an Emergency Evacuation Plan on file in your area. Please see your supervisor for evacuation procedures and a copy of the plan.

[Inspections of Property](#)

CSUSM Corporation provides desks and other equipment for the use of its employees at CSUSM Corporation’s expense. Although desks are made available for the use of employees while at work, employees should remember that all desks, work areas, and similar equipment remain the sole property of CSUSM Corporation.

At times, it may be necessary to inspect an employee’s desk or work area for operational or other reasons. CSUSM Corporation reserves the right to conduct periodic inspections of desks or work areas, as well as any contents, effects, articles that are in desks or the work area, as well as packages or other articles that leave CSUSM Corporation premises in the possession of an employee. Such inspections may occur at any time, with or without advance notice or consent. Further, such inspections may be conducted during, before, or after working hours by any supervisor, manager, or security personnel designated by CSUSM Corporation. Employees who fail to cooperate in any inspection will be subject to disciplinary action, including possible suspension or termination.

If employees want to avoid inspections of their personal belongings that are brought on to CSUSM Corporation premises, they should refrain from bringing packages or other articles on to CSUSM Corporation’s premises. Prohibited materials, including weapons, explosives, alcohol, marijuana, and non-prescribed drugs or medications, may not be brought on to any CSUSM Corporation premises. CSUSM Corporation is not responsible for any articles that are lost, damaged, stolen, or destroyed while on any CSUSM Corporation worksite.

[Inquiries about Employment](#)

From time to time, CSUSM Corporation may receive inquiries from outside individuals regarding the status of your employment. For example, we may receive calls from banks, credit agencies, or prospective employers, asking us whether you are employed with CSUSM Corporation, your current position with CSUSM Corporation, your salary, and why you may have left CSUSM Corporation. You should be aware that, when we receive such inquiries about your employment,

CSUSM Corporation has a strict policy of providing only limited information. Consequently, no employee (other than certain authorized people in CSUSM Corporation Human Resources) may provide any information regarding current or former employees (either on or off-the-record) to any non-employee without the specific written approval of the Executive Director. This includes letters of reference. The only information that we provide is your dates of employment and your position with CSUSM Corporation. CSUSM Corporation's strict policy prohibits us from revealing any information about why you may have left us. However, in some instances, you may want us to reveal additional information. In those instances, we require written authorization from you, permitting us to divulge such additional information. You may obtain the appropriate disclosure authorization forms from the CSUSM Corporation Human Resources department.

If You Must Leave Us

While we hope that your employment with us will be lengthy and pleasant, it must be remembered that the employment policy of CSUSM Corporation is that all employees are employed on an at-will basis which is based on the mutual consent of you and CSUSM Corporation. Thus, either you or CSUSM Corporation may terminate the employment relationship at any time and for any reason.

If you decide to leave CSUSM Corporation, we would appreciate at least two weeks' written notice of your resignation. All employees who resign are encouraged to participate in the exit interview process, so that information and suggestions obtained in these interviews may be used to improve the work environment for other employees. If you resign, CSUSM Corporation retains the right to accept your resignation.

In order to comply with certain regulations, you will be required to submit your final work hours online via the Time & Attendance system or a completed, supervisor authorized final time sheet to the Human Resources and Payroll Department prior to your last worked. You are required to return all property owned by CSUSM Corporation (e.g., computers, parking permits, keys, cell phones, uniforms, identification badges) prior to your departure. Exiting employees shall not delete their incoming or outgoing email messages immediately prior to, upon or after termination of employment.

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Acknowledgement

I acknowledge and understand that the California State University San Marcos Corporation (CSUSM Corporation) Employee Handbook is fully available to me at the following website: <https://www.csusm.edu/corp/> and I understand that it describes important information about CSUSM Corporation. I understand that it is my responsibility to read the Handbook and to abide by the rules, policies and standards set forth in it. I understand that the contents of this Handbook are presented solely as a matter of information and guidance, and that this Handbook is not intended to be, nor should it be viewed as, either an express or implied contract between CSUSM Corporation and me.

I further understand that CSUSM Corporation maintains a policy of at-will employment with respect to both the duration and terms and conditions of the employment relationship. This means that CSUSM Corporation reserves the right to change the terms and conditions of the employment relationship or to terminate that relationship at will, with or without cause or prior notice. I also understand and agree that CSUSM Corporation's policy of at-will employment is not subject to change other than through an express written agreement signed by me and the Executive Director of CSUSM Corporation.

I understand that the foregoing agreement concerning my employment at will status and CSUSM Corporation's right to determine and modify the terms and conditions of employment is the sole and entire agreement between me and CSUSM Corporation concerning the duration of my employment, the circumstances under which my employment may be terminated, and the circumstances under which the terms and conditions of my employment may change. I further understand that this agreement supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, and representations concerning my employment with CSUSM Corporation. Finally, I understand that, except for CSUSM Corporation's policy of employment at-will, CSUSM Corporation reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to change, supplement or rescind all or any part of the practices, procedures or benefits described in the Handbook as it deems necessary, with or without prior notice.

Employee's Signature

Date

Employee's Name Printed
