

**SUPPLEMENT TO MASTER CONTRACT
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATION**

WORKDAY AND REST BREAKS

The regular workday will be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. One 15-minute rest break will be granted during the first four hours of the eight-hour workday and one 15-minute rest break during the second four hours. Notification prior to leaving the building during a rest break will be required. For any non-approved leave for personal reasons extending over 15 minutes, the employee will be required to take the appropriate leave time. Rest breaks may not be used to extend lunch periods, except with prior approval.

ARTICLE 8. SECTION 1. (Master Agreement)

“Non-exempt” employee means an employee subject to the overtime provisions of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and its regulations. “Non-exempt” employees shall be paid at a rate of one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all authorized time they work over 40 hours per week.

ARTICLE 8, SECTION 7. (Master Agreement)

Management personnel may occasionally assist in performing or perform tasks otherwise considered to be duties of bargaining unit members.

FEDERATION/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In order to facilitate communication and resolve issues of mutual interest, a Federation/Management Committee will be formed which will consist of no more than three employees who are members of the bargaining unit and three employer representative(s). These six individuals will make up the core committee.

The Committee shall not take the place of bargaining or the grievance procedure but will consider day-to-day kinds of matters which are not discussed in the staff meetings, unless it is mutually agreed that the subject be considered by the Committee. In no case will this committee modify or abrogate the terms and conditions of this contract or the Master Agreement.

The Executive Director of the Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration (MPERA), the Director’s designee or the bargaining unit executive committee may request such a meeting. The meeting will be held on the Employer’s time whenever possible, at a time and date mutually agreeable. Typically, meetings will be held the Wednesday prior to scheduled MPERA board meetings. Meetings will be held monthly in the beginning and then at least quarterly or more often as necessary and as determined by the committee members.

FLEXIBLE HOURS

Employees may request changes to their regular schedules in the following categories:

Flex-time – situational requests to adjust an employee’s schedule during a week period. Normally such requests will address short-term scheduling changes to offset time for personal needs.

Alternate work schedule – a long-term change to an employee’s schedule with the following conditions documented: schedule, duration, and conditions for repeal of the schedule.

Management shall consider organizational needs and similar requests for schedule changes when making a decision to approve or deny. Management may designate positions that are not eligible for alternate work scheduling.

CLASSIFICATIONS

1. An employee or his/her representative affected by the operation of the Classification Act is entitled to file a complaint with the Board of Personnel Appeals provided for by law and to be heard under the provisions of a grievance procedure to be prescribed by the Board.
2. Direct or indirect interference, restraint, or retaliation by an employee’s supervisor or the agency for which the employee works or by any other agency of state government against an employee because the employee has filed, or attempted to file, a complaint with the Board shall also be basis for a complaint and shall entitle the employee to file a complaint with the Board and to be heard under the provisions of the grievance procedure prescribed by the Board.
3. An action attempting to revise the class specifications of or series of class specifications involving an employee exercising the right to appeal their classification, which would adversely affect the employee prior to final resolution or entry of a final order with respect thereto is presumed to be an interference, restraint, coercion, or retaliation prohibited by subsection 2 of this section unless such review was commenced or scheduled prior to filing of the appeal and was not prompted by the grievance appealed from. The presumption is rebuttable.

ARTICLE 10. SECTION 8. (Master Agreement)

An employee awaiting approval on an industrial accident claim must be considered on leave without pay, sick leave or vacation pay status and must provide all required medical information from the attending physician or must provide a valid leave request, specifying the anticipated length of the absence.

ARTICLE 12, SECTION 1. (Master Agreement)

A probationary period shall be utilized for the most effective adjustment of a new employee and for the elimination of any employee whose performance does not, in the judgment of the employee's supervisor, meet the required standard of performance.

The probationary period shall last for Twelve months. If the Employer determines at any time during the probationary period that the services of the probationary employee are unsatisfactory, the employee may be separated upon written notice from the Employer. The matter of the creation of additional probationary periods may be discussed in the appropriate supplemental(s).

JOB VACANCIES:

Whenever a vacancy or newly created position occurs within the bargaining unit, the Employer will prepare a job notice and post the position externally with email notice given to Federation members. Members who apply for the position will be hired over external candidates where qualifications for the position are substantially equal.

BROADBAND PAY PLAN PROVISIONS

Section 1. Statement of broadband pay plan objectives. It is the objective of the Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration to pay employees for their competencies and accomplishments and to consider market factors in establishing pay. The following pay plan provisions represent an initial step toward that goal by progressing employees to target pay for their occupation provided they are not under corrective action.

Section 2. Pay ranges. The following pay ranges are for bargaining unit positions represented by the Federation:

Classification Title	Working Title(s)	Job Code	Minimum	Target
Administrative Assistant 1	Receptionist	Q61021	\$24,341	\$29,221
Data Processor 2	Information System Processor	Q92012	\$26,224	\$31,482
Document Imaging Operator	Imaging Clerk	Q97021	\$27,489	\$33,000
Customer Service Assistant 2	Customer Service Representative	Q45012	\$32,261	\$43,531
Legal Secretary 1	Legal Specialist	Q61031	\$41,845	\$50,234
Benefits Specialist 2	Benefits Analyst/Disability Claims Examiner	B1E022	\$44,473	\$55,643
Trainer 1	Education/Training Specialist	B1F011	\$44,880	\$56,100
Accountant 2	Pension Financial Specialist/Financial Accountant	B21012	\$47,107	\$58,884
Public Relations Specialist 1	Publications Specialist	I33011	\$48,136	\$60,170
IT Systems Analyst 1	Computer Systems Analyst	C1C011	\$57,200	\$71,500
IT Systems Administrator 1	LAN Administrator	C1E011	\$57,853	\$72,316
Software Developer 2	Computer Application Engineer/DevOps Engineer	C1D022	\$57,998	\$72,498
Database Administrator 2	Computer Application Engineer	C1E022	\$60,476	\$75,595

Section 3. Pay Increases. Employee pay increases within their occupational pay range shall be discretionary and based upon their performance. The pay increase will be effective the first day of the first full pay period immediately following a conclusive pay increase determination made by bargaining unit member’s supervisor that is approved by the executive director.

Section 4. Training assignments. The Executive Director or designee may establish written training assignments to enable an employee to gain the additional experience and training required for the job. In these cases, the Executive Director or designee may set the employee’s base pay rate below the minimum for the occupation as indicated in Section 2 pay ranges, for a period of time not to exceed one year. At the completion of the training assignment, the employee’s pay will be set no less than the minimum pay rate for the occupational pay band.

Section 5. Lead workers. Base pay for lead workers, as identified by the Executive Director, will be five percent above target for their occupation. Lead worker responsibilities shall be determined by the direct supervisor and include, but not be limited to:

- Leading daily work tasks within their assigned work section.
- Providing assistance and feedback to staff within their assigned work section.
- Resolving escalated issues in the absence of management.

Section 6. Promotions. Federation members who are promoted to a new position may receive a pay increase when advancing to a higher-level job. A promoted employee's pay shall fall between the minimum and target for the occupation as indicated in Section 2 pay ranges, considering the employee's job-related qualifications and competencies and comparison to employees in similar jobs who have similar qualifications and competencies that is approved by the Executive Director.

Section 7. Demotions. The Executive Director or designee shall typically set the base pay rate of an employee demoted to a position in a lower pay band to a level that maintains the employee's target pay prior to the demotion. At the director's discretion, the demoted employee's base pay rate may remain the same as it was in the higher pay band. If the maximum base salary of the newly assigned band is lower than the employee's current base salary, the Executive Director may allow the employee's base pay rate to be pay protected up to a period of 180 calendar days. At the end of the 180-day period, the employee's base pay rate will be reduced to the maximum pay rate for the new pay band.

Section 8. Reclassifications. Reclassification of a position does not constitute a new position; therefore, the employee maintains their current market ratio based on years of service.

Section 9. 2023-2025 Statutory Compensation

Across the Board Pay Adjustments

Effective on the first day of the first complete pay period that includes July 1, 2023, the base salary of each employee must be increased by \$1.50 an hour or by 4%, whichever is greater. Effective on the first day of the first complete pay period that includes July 1, 2024, the base salary of each employee must be increased by \$1.50 an hour or by 4%, whichever is greater.

Further, in accordance with Section 2-18-303(4)(a)(i), these adjustments will not be provided to employees until the State receives written notice that the employee's collective bargaining unit has ratified the agreement. If that notice is received after the effective date of the pay adjustment, the adjustment will be paid retroactively.

Employer Contributions for Group Health Plan

Member-paid employee health benefit coverage costs for single member will not increase through plan year 2025. The cost of single-member health benefit coverage will be covered by the state share contribution, after the health incentive is applied. Member contributions, copay amounts, deductibles, coinsurance

levels, and maximum out-of-pocket levels for employee-only coverage will not increase through plan year 2025.

This Agreement is signed and dated this 12/31/2024.

FOR: STATE OF MONTANA

FOR: MONTANA FEDERATION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Signed by:

Karol Anne Davis

Karol Anne Davis
Chief Labor Negotiator
State Office Labor Relations

Signed by:

Justin Hawkaluk

Justin Hawkaluk, Field Representative
Montana Federation of Public Employees

Signed by:

Bill Holahan

Bill Holahan
Executive Director
Public Employee Retirement
Administration

Signed by:

Kris Vladic

Kris Vladic, Local President
Montana Federation of Public
Employees