

Absences, Leaves and Vacations**PROFESSIONAL LEAVE**

Professional leave is leave granted to full-time members of the United Teachers of Dade and Dade County School Administrators' Association bargaining units, managerial exempt employees, and confidential/exempt employees to engage in activities which will result in professional benefit or advancement, including earning of college credits and degrees.

Professional Leave With Pay

Any regular member of the instructional or professional administrative staff (12 month employees) may be granted three weeks of professional leave with compensation during any school year when school is not in session, with such leave cumulative for not more than two years, in accordance with Florida Statutes and State Board of Education Rules, provided that one is under contract during this period and further provided that such leave is approved in writing by the principal of the school for personnel under his/her supervision and by the Superintendent of Schools, or such person as may be designated. School is construed to be in session starting with the first day of the 180 day school term for students in the fall and ending with the last day the students are required to be in school in the spring. Professional leave for such personnel not under the supervision of a principal shall be approved by the Superintendent of Schools or designee.

Professional leave will not be granted to persons who are employed for less than twelve months to attend summer school during the period of services which exceeds the regular ten-month period served by teachers. No substitute will be approved for a person whose first day of absence for summer school is the day following the end of the students' term of school in the spring, or for a person whose last day of absence is prior to the first day of the students' 180-day term of school.

We recognize the importance of employees who voluntarily participate in government and other civic affairs. Employees serving in an elected position on August 21, 2002 and receiving professional leave with pay when engaged in official functions of the elected body, may continue to receive said leave for the remainder of their current term in office, but not thereafter. Employees who are elected to public office after August 21, 2002 may request professional leave with pay for release time directly related to their attendance at official functions of the elected body. Such leave shall be granted in half or full day increments, and the daily rate of the salary for their elected position shall be deducted from their school system pay for such leave.

Specific Authority: 1001.41(1)(2); 1001.42(25); 1001.43(10) F.S.
Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 228.056(13)(e); 1010.66 F.S.; 6A-1.081 FAC

History: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Repromulgated: 12-11-74

Amended: 5-13-98; 8-21-02; 8-5-09