LSU Eunice PS No. 63 Effective: May 29, 2011

Revised: December 3, 2012, May 30, 2013

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# SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL PRIVILEGES FOR FULL-TIME NONACADEMIC AND OTHER ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES, EDUCATIONAL LEAVE, AND SABBATICAL LEAVE

## I. EDUCATIONAL PRIVILEGES FOR FULL-TIME NONACADEMIC & OTHER ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES

1. Full-time nonacademic and other academic employees, (excluding faculty) who have been employed at least one year in a full-time, permanent position and with approval from their department head or supervisor, may register for job-related courses for up to 6 hours per semester and receive full tuition exemption. Only three hours per week of the approved job-related courses may be taken during work time without charge to annual leave. Continued participation in this tuition exemption program will be based on making satisfactory progress as determined by the employee's supervisor. Satisfactory progress shall generally be interpreted to include completion of the course with a passing grade.

For the summer term, tuition exemption will be limited to three (3) hours.

(Please note that the provisions of this policy do not apply to specialized self-supported educational programs such as the Executive MBA Program. Employees should consult with the Chief Academic Officer on their campus to determine eligibility.)

Full-time nonacademic and other academic employees, (excluding faculty) during their first year of employment and with approval from their supervisors, may register, at their own expense, for a job-related course and be allowed to take the course during work time for up to three clock hours per week.

A form to request approval for enrollment, work release time, and tuition waiver is available in the Office of the Registrar.

Part-time employees are not eligible for the above educational benefits.

2. Professional staff/administrators who do not hold positions where there is a potential for conflict of interest will be permitted to pursue a doctorate; those in positions where a conflict of interest could exist will continue to be ineligible.

#### II. Educational Leave

Members of the instructional, research, and extension staff on full-time regular academic appointment at the rank of Instructor (or equivalent) or above, and full-time unclassified administrative and professional employees, who have completed three (3) consecutive years of service, may petition for a leave of absence with part pay for not more than one (1) year of study which will culminate in the receipt of an advanced degree within five (5) years. Such petition shall set forth the course of study to be pursued, the institution to be attended, an account of the petitioner's prospect for securing an advanced degree, and such other information as may be

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required. The petition shall be granted only after the Chancellor and the appropriate academic dean or administrative officer have determined that the interests of the University will be best served by granting such leave and that the petitioner will return to his University duties for at least two (2) years before accepting employment elsewhere. Persons in positions supported by non-recurring funds may qualify for educational leave only if the guaranteed period of support for the position is sufficient to cover the period of leave and the required service subsequent to the leave. Persons paid from grant or non-recurring funds will usually need documentation that the cost of the leave is supportable by the funding source. Educational leave will be granted by the Board upon recommendations through the President from the Chancellors of the various campuses. The amount of pay to be allowed under such a grant shall be determined in each individual case, but in no event shall it exceed one-half (1/2) of the regular salary which would accrue to the petitioner during the period of leave. For the academic employee, the term "regular" refers to the salary of the academic year with out presumption of summer-term appointment. If the petitioner, upon taking educational leave, does not return to the University for the required two years, the petitioner shall pay back to the University the amount paid to the petitioner for the leave. For full-time academic employees at the rank of Instructor or above, the period of service completed prior to granting of leave under this section shall not be counted in considering eligibility for sabbatical leave. Requests for educational leave are initiated at the departmental level and processed through administrative channels during the fall semester in response to a memorandum issued by the Office of Academic Affairs.

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#### III. Sabbatical Leave

Full-time academic employees at the rank of Instructor (or equivalent) or above, who have completed six years of service on the campus without having received leave with pay, may petition for sabbatical leave for study and research, the object of which is to enable them to increase their professional efficiency and usefulness to the University. Adequate justification setting forth the plans for each sabbatical leave shall be stated, and report of the accomplishments under each leave granted shall be made promptly upon return from sabbatical leave. Sabbatical leave shall normally be approved for the purpose of seeking a higher degree only under unusual circumstances. Persons employed on a 12-month basis may be granted 12 months' leave with one-half pay or six months' leave with full pay. Persons employed on ninemonth basis may be granted nine months' leave with one-half pay or four and one-half months' leave with full pay. Persons in positions supported by non-recurring funds may qualify for sabbatical leave only if the guaranteed period of support for the position is sufficient to cover the period of leave and the required service subsequent to the leave. Persons paid from grant or non-recurring funds will usually need documentation that the cost of the leave is supportable by the funding source. The Chancellor shall, after receiving requests from the appropriate academic dean or other administrative head, make recommendations for sabbatical leave through the President to the Board. A member of the academic staff who is granted sabbatical leave shall be required to return to his/her University duties for at least a year before accepting

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employment elsewhere. A condition for the granting of a sabbatical is the potential benefit the university will receive as a result of the sabbatical.

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Under unusual circumstances, persons may accept employment during sabbatical leave if such employment is approved in advance by the Chancellor and the President as supportive of the purposes of the leave.

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Requests for sabbatical leave are initiated at the department level during the Fall semester, in response to a memorandum issued by the Office of Academic Affairs.

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Sabbatical leave requests will be disapproved or rescinded when financial or other considerations make such action appropriate.

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See Section 3-1 of By-laws and Regulations of the Board of Supervisors.

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96 SOURCE: PM-12, dated December 12, 2000.