Benefits Overview for Full-Time Employees

This packet is made available as a reference guide and does not in any way express a written contract of employment or benefits to be provided. All programs are subject to revision. Should any discrepancies occur between this packet and the Summary Plan Description for the benefits herein described, the legal document will take precedence.

May 2022
The following benefits begin on the first day of the month following the employee’s date of hire:

**Medical Insurance:** Employee’s contribution is based on the employee’s gross base pay.

**Dental Insurance:** The plan covers preventive, basic, major and orthodontia services. The plan provides a $1,000 annual limit per family member per calendar year.

**Vision Insurance:** A separate vision plan is available and provides coverage for refractive eye exam, glasses, frames and contacts. The plan is 100% employee paid.

**Life Insurance:** The College offers a basic term life insurance plan of $50,000 of which the employee pays 10% of the cost. Employees may purchase additional term life insurance under the Voluntary life insurance plan.

**Long Term Disability:** The long-term disability benefit provides 60% of the employee’s monthly base salary not to exceed $6,000 per month.

**Flexible Spending Account:** Flexible spending accounts allow an employee to set aside money from their pay on a pretax basis to reimburse themselves for unreimbursed medical expenses or dependent care expenses.

**Death Benefit:** The College would provide a payment equal to 25% of the employee’s current annual base salary to the employee’s beneficiary if the employee passes away while in active status.

**Defined Contribution 403(b) plan:** There is a one-year waiting period* for an employee to receive the college’s contribution** to the 403(b) plan. Employees must tax defer to receive the college contribution. Employees may tax defer funds during the one year waiting period.

** Effective June 1, 2021, the college will contribute 4% if the employee contributes 1%.

*If an employee has prior employment in higher education, the one-year waiting period for the college’s contribution may be waived. Please contact Human Resources for the details and form.

**Tuition Waivers:** Employees with full-time responsibilities may take a maximum of two courses per semester tuition-free, including summer session. Graduate level waivers will be taxable as income if the amount of tuition waived during the calendar year exceeds $5,250.00. Check with the Human Resources Department for current tax status before registering.

Tuition may be waived for undergraduate study, over and above the amount of all applicable state, federal, or private scholarship awards, for children to age 26 and spouses of full-time employees, based on the following schedule of full-time service:

Upon employment: 25%  
1st anniversary: 50%  
2nd anniversary: 75%  
3rd anniversary: 100%

Prior years of **full-time employment** at institutions of higher education will be considered toward fulfilling the required service factor.
Children: Waivers for children are for undergraduate study only. Up to a full undergraduate study per semester will be waived based on the above schedule. **All applicants are required to apply for all state and federal awards through the Financial Aid Office.** Children must be a dependent of the employee, as defined by the Internal Revenue Service for the tuition to be considered non-taxable.

Spouses: Spouses of full-time employees may have tuition waived for a maximum of two graduate courses per semester or up to a full load of undergraduate study per semester, based on the above schedule. **Federal regulations require the college to report graduate waivers as taxable income to the administrator and to withhold federal, state, and F.I.C.A. taxes.**

In all cases, fees remain payable, but any financial aid award from agencies outside the College will be applied first to fees due and the balance to tuition.

**Exclusions:** Certain types of courses are excluded from tuition waivers. Any courses resulting in additional cash expense to the College will not be covered under the tuition waiver program.

**Dependent Exchange Program:** Canisius College participates with several other colleges and universities in the United States in programs whereby dependent children of eligible employees may apply to enroll in one of the other institutions on an exchange basis. Enrollment at another institution is not guaranteed; the dependent child needs to be accepted by the other institution and also by its exchange program. Participating institutions can be viewed at [www.tuitionexchange.org](http://www.tuitionexchange.org). Contact the Financial Aid Office for complete information.

**Adoption Benefit:** Full-time employees who have completed 12 months of full-time employment are eligible to utilize the adoption benefit. The benefit provides reimbursement up to $2,000 for eligible adoption expenses and 3 paid Adoption Days to be used during the adoption process. Contact the Human Resources Department regarding pending adoptions and for additional details.

**EAP (Employee Assistance Program):** Uprise Health provides an Employee Assistance Program to the college. The program provides confidential consultation and counseling for a wide range of personal and family problems. The program provides three free face to face consultations per year.

**Service Learning Days:** Staff members who volunteer to participate in college-sponsored service learning activities may apply for up to three days of paid service leave in an academic year. Application information is available in the Human Resources Department.

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**RIGHT TO MODIFY BENEFIT PLANS**

The college reserves the right to modify employee benefits according to the future needs of the college or in response to regulatory changes.