



# RESEARCH CORPORATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

## RESOLUTION NO. 24-01 RELATIVE TO AMENDING THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK AND POLICY MANUAL

**WHEREAS**, the Research Corporation of the University of Guam (RCUOG) was established by Public Law 32-114 as a public corporation; and

**WHEREAS**, PL 32-114 states that the Board of Directors shall adopt rules and regulations governing the terms and conditions of employment for RCUOG personnel; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Employee Handbook and Policy Manual was initially approved by the Board in 2014 and has undergone subsequent amendments to add or revise policy; and,


**WHEREAS**, the Research Corporation seeks to clarify language in section 4.3 regarding dual employment, in section 5.3 regarding interviewing qualified applicants, to clarify language in section 5.4 in reference to required signatures on personnel actions, and section 5.7 to update the reference under faculty hires to cite the appropriate Board of Regents Resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Research Corporation seeks to clarify when approved leave forms must be submitted in section 6.1, and when employees are allowed to take sick leave in conjunction with annual leave in section 6.2, and when an employee must submit a birth certificate for their newborn child in section 6.3; and

**WHEREAS**, the Research Corporation seeks to clarify language section 6.6 regarding the executive director's signature on workers' compensation forms, and to clarify benefits for full-time and part-time employees in section 10.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby adopts the RCUOG Employee Handbook and Policy Manual, as amended.

Adopted this 8th Day of March 2024.

  
Anita Borja Enriquez (Mar 12, 2024 18:26 GMT+10)

Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez, Chairperson

**ATTESTED:**

  
Ryan Shook (Mar 13, 2024 17:22 GMT+10)

Ryan Shook, Secretary

# RESOLUTION NO 24-01 Amending the Employee Handbook and Policy Manual

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RESEARCH CORPORATION  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

**EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK AND POLICY MANUAL**

Updated March 8, 2024

**Employee Handbook and Policy Manual**  
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# **1. RCUOG EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK & POLICY MANUAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Welcome to the Research Corporation of the University of Guam (RCUOG or Corporation). We hope that you will have a productive relationship with the RCUOG. To help you understand RCUOG policies, we have provided you with a copy of the RCUOG Employee Handbook and Policy Manual. Please read this handbook carefully. The information contained within it will acquaint you with Corporation policies and will answer many of your questions. From time to time these policies may be updated in writing and updates will be posted on the RCUOG website: [www.uog.edu/rcuog](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog).

Please remember that this handbook does not contain all the information you will need to perform your job. This handbook highlights RCUOG policies, procedures, guidelines, and employment benefits for your information. To retain necessary flexibility in the administration of policies and procedures, the RCUOG reserves the right to make revisions without notice. In the event of conflicts or differences between the wording of the policies themselves, and the summaries of this handbook, the terms of the policies will govern.

This handbook also summarizes benefits currently available to our employees. In the event of conflicts or differences between the wording of the benefit plans themselves, and the summaries of this handbook, the terms of the benefit plan will govern.

RCUOG has the sole discretion to determine eligibility for benefits and to interpret and administer these plans. RCUOG reserves the right to change, revise or terminate, or change the terms and conditions of any of the benefits discussed in this handbook without advance notice.

This handbook is not an employment contract. Unless you have a written contract with RCUOG signed by the Executive Director, you are an at-will employee. This means you or the RCUOG may terminate our employment relationship at any time, with or without a reason.

In the future, your status as an at-will employee can only be changed through a written contract signed by both you and the Executive Director of the RCUOG. If you have a question concerning any of the information contained in this handbook, please consult with your supervisor or the RCUOG administrative team.

## **RCUOG Employee Receipt and Acknowledgement**

I have received a copy of the RCUOG Employee Handbook. I have read the above information and I acknowledge that it is a correct statement of my employment status. I understand that this handbook is not a contract for employment.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **2. RCUOG EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION**

All newly hired employees will participate in an orientation to familiarize themselves with the RCUOG's policies and procedures and with the University of Guam. This orientation session demonstrates the collegial atmosphere of the RCUOG and introduces the positive employee relations environment in which you should work.

Orientations will cover the following information contained in the RCUOG Employee Handbook:

- Brief history of UOG and RCUOG
- Code of Ethics
- Hiring Practices and Procedures
- Attendance, Absenteeism, and Leave Policy
- Schedule Adjustment, Overtime, and Compensatory Time-Off Policy
- Internet and Email Use and Social Media Guidelines
- Progressive Discipline Procedures
- Grievance Procedures
- Harassment and Bullying
- EEO, ADA and Title IX Compliance Statements
- Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy
- Tobacco Free Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Health and Safety Policy –UOG Clery Act Policy
- Performance Appraisal (Evaluation Policy)
- Employee Benefits
  - Medical and Dental Insurance
  - Social Security and Medicare
  - 403(b)

Campus tours and/or presentations from various UOG or RCUOG employees on relevant issues may be included in the orientation as needed. Additionally, during your new employee orientation period and on an ongoing basis during your career, your supervisor is the best source of information if you have questions regarding job duties, policies and procedures that must be followed in the workplace, and the use of facilities, equipment, and supplies.

### **3. RCUOG IS A PUBLIC CORPORATION**

Research Corporation of the University of Guam is public corporation created by Public Law 32-114. PL 32-114 can be downloaded from the RCUOG website at [www.uog.edu/rcuog](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog).

## **4. RCUOG CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT**

### **4.1 Statement of Mission and Core Values**

#### Mission

RCUOG provides an efficient managerial environment necessary to compete for and manage research funding. The purpose of the RCUOG includes but is not limited to promoting the educational, scientific, and literary pursuits of the University of Guam and encourages training, research, and study by providing the infrastructure for streamlined grants and contracts management in compliance with federal rules and regulations as well as RCUOG policies.

#### Build Trust and Credibility

The success of the RCUOG is dependent on the trust and confidence we earn from our employees, funding agencies, and partners. We gain credibility by complying with federal rules and regulations, displaying honesty and integrity, and reaching goals solely through ethical and honorable conduct.

#### Respect for the Individual

We all deserve to work in an environment where we are treated with dignity and respect. RCUOG is committed to creating such an environment because this contributes directly to our success. RCUOG is an equal employment/affirmative action employer and is committed to providing a workplace that is free of discrimination of all types, and from abusive, offensive, or harassing behavior. Any employee who feels harassed or discriminated against should report the incident to his or her supervisor or unit administrator, or the RCUOG executive director.

#### Create a Culture of Open and Honest Communication

At RCUOG everyone should feel comfortable speaking freely, particularly with respect to ethics concerns. Managers have a responsibility to create an open and supportive environment where employees feel comfortable raising such questions. The organization benefits when employees exercise their power to prevent mistakes or wrongdoing by asking the right questions at the right time.

RCUOG will initiate an investigation of all reported instances of questionable or unethical behavior. In every instance where improper behavior is found to have occurred, the RCUOG will take appropriate action. We will not tolerate retaliation against employees who raise genuine ethics concerns in good faith.

#### Uphold the Law, Rules and Regulations

RCUOG's commitment to integrity begins with complying with laws, rules, and regulations where we do business. Further, each of us must understand the RCUOG policies, laws, rules, and federal regulations that apply to our specific roles. If we are unsure of whether a contemplated action is permitted by law or RCUOG policy, we should seek the advice from the resource expert. We are responsible for preventing violations of law, rules, regulations and for speaking up if we see possible violations.



## **4.2 Conflicts of Interest**

We must avoid any relationship or activity that might impair our ability to make objective and fair decisions when performing our jobs. At times, we may be faced with situations where the business actions we take on behalf of RCUOG may conflict with our own personal or family interests because the course of action that is best for us personally may not also be the best course of action for RCUOG. We owe a duty to RCUOG to advance its legitimate interests when the opportunity to do so arises. We must never use RCUOG property or information for personal gain or personally take for ourselves any opportunity that is discovered through our position with RCUOG.

Examples of instances where conflicts of interest could arise include but are not limited to:

- Being employed by, or acting as a consultant to, a competitor or potential competitor, supplier, or contractor, regardless of the nature of the employment, while you are employed with RCUOG.
- Hiring or supervising family members or closely related persons.
- Serving as a board member for an outside commercial company or organization doing business with RCUOG.
- Owning or having a substantial interest in a competitor, supplier, or contractor.
- Having a personal interest, financial interest, or potential gain in any RCUOG transaction.
- Placing organization business with a firm owned or controlled by a RCUOG employee or his or her family.
- Accepting gifts, discounts, favors, or services from a customer/potential customer, competitor, or supplier (for details see gifts, gratuities, and business courtesies below).

Determining whether a conflict of interest exists is not always easy to do. Employees with a conflict of interest question should seek advice from their PI and/or supervisor. Before engaging in any activity, transaction or relationship that might give rise to a conflict of interest, employees must seek review from their supervisors or the RCUOG administration for guidance.

## **4.3 Outside Employment or Dual Employment**

A Concurrent Employment Form must be approved by the unit administrator and submitted to RCUOG for final approval at least two (2) days prior to the commencement of the concurrent employment. All Concurrent Employment Forms will be reviewed annually. New RCUOG employees must submit a Concurrent Employment Form to their supervisor if they hold another job elsewhere after they are hired at the Research Corporation. RCUOG may require an employee to submit a work schedule. The Concurrent Employment Form is posted on the RCUOG website: [www.uog.edu/rcuog/policies-and-forms#Forms](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog/policies-and-forms#Forms)

## **4.4 Gifts, Gratuities and Business Courtesies**

RCUOG is committed to competing solely on the merit of our products and services. We should avoid any actions that create a perception that favorable treatment of outside entities by RCUOG was sought, received, or given in exchange for personal business courtesies. Business courtesies include gifts, gratuities, meals, refreshments, entertainment or other benefits from persons or companies with whom RCUOG does or may do business. We will neither give nor accept business courtesies that constitute, or could reasonably be perceived as constituting, unfair business

inducements that would violate law, federal regulations, or policies of RCUOG, or would cause embarrassment or reflect negatively on RCUOG's reputation.

### Gifts

Employees may accept unsolicited gifts, other than money, which conform to the reasonable ethical practices of the marketplace, including:

- Flowers, fruit baskets and other modest presents that commemorate a special occasion.
- Gifts of nominal value, such as calendars, pens, mugs, caps, and t-shirts (or other novelty, advertising, or promotional items).

Employees should not accept compensation, honoraria, or money of any amount from entities with whom RCUOG does or may do business. Tangible gifts that have a market value greater than \$100 should not be accepted.

Employees with questions about accepting business courtesies should talk to their managers or the RCUOG executive director.

### Meals, Refreshments and Entertainment

Entertainment costs cannot be charged to a federal grant under any circumstances. Employees may accept occasional meals, refreshments, entertainment, and similar business courtesies that are shared with the person who has offered to pay for the meal or entertainment, provided that:

- They are not inappropriately lavish or excessive.
- The courtesies are not frequent and do not reflect a pattern of frequent acceptance of courtesies from the same person or entity.
- The courtesy does not create the appearance of an attempt to influence business decisions, such as accepting courtesies or entertainment from a supplier whose contract is expiring in the near future.
- The employee accepting the business courtesy would not feel uncomfortable discussing the courtesy with his or her manager or co-worker or having the courtesies known by the public.

### Offering Business Courtesies

Any employee who offers a business courtesy must assure that it cannot reasonably be interpreted as an attempt to gain an unfair business advantage or otherwise reflect negatively upon RCUOG. An employee should not use personal funds or resources to do something that cannot be done with RCUOG resources. Accounting for business courtesies must be done in accordance with approved Corporation procedures.

Other than to our government customers, for whom special rules apply, we may provide nonmonetary gifts (i.e., RCUOG/UOG logo apparel or similar promotional items) to our customers. Further, management may approve other courtesies, including meals, refreshments or entertainment of reasonable value provided that:

- Business courtesies such as meals or entertainment are not charged to a federal grant.
- The practice does not violate any law or regulation or the standards of conduct of the recipient's organization.
- The business courtesy is consistent with industry practice, is infrequent in nature and is not lavish.
- The business courtesy is properly reflected on the books and records of RCUOG.

#### **4.5 Accurate Public Disclosures**

We will make certain that all disclosures made in financial reports and public documents are full, fair, accurate, timely, and understandable. This obligation applies to all employees, including all financial executives, with any responsibility for the preparation of such reports, including drafting, reviewing, and signing or certifying the information contained therein. No business goal of any kind is ever an excuse for misrepresenting facts or falsifying records.

Employees should inform RCUOG management if they learn that information in any filing or public communication was untrue or misleading at the time it was made or if subsequent information would affect a similar future filing or public communication.

##### Recordkeeping

We create, retain, and dispose of our organization records as part of our normal course of business in compliance with all RCUOG policies and guidelines, as well as all regulatory and legal requirements.

All corporate records must be true, accurate and complete, and Corporation data must be promptly and accurately entered in our books in accordance with RCUOG's and other generally accepted accounting principles.

We must not improperly influence, manipulate, or mislead any audit, nor interfere with any auditor engaged to perform an internal independent audit of RCUOG books, records, processes, or internal controls.

##### Accountability

Employees are responsible for knowing and adhering to the values and standards set forth in this code. RCUOG takes seriously the standards set forth in the code, and violations are cause for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

#### **4.6 Confidential and Proprietary Information**

Integral to RCUOG's business success is our protection of confidential organization information, as well as nonpublic information entrusted to us by employees, researchers, and other partners. Confidential and proprietary information includes research discoveries, financial data, customer names/addresses or nonpublic information about other companies, including current or potential supplier and vendors. We will not disclose confidential and nonpublic information without a valid business purpose and proper authorization.

We will not acquire or seek to acquire improper means of trade secrets or other proprietary or confidential information. We will not engage in unauthorized use, copying, distribution or

alteration of software or other intellectual property.

#### **4.7 Use of Corporation Resources**

RCUOG resources, including time, material, equipment, and information, are provided for RCUOG business use.

Employees and those who represent RCUOG are trusted to behave responsibly and use good judgment to conserve organization resources. Managers are responsible for the resources assigned to their departments and are empowered to resolve issues concerning their proper use.

Employees will not use Corporation equipment such as computers, copiers, and fax machines in the conduct of an outside business or in support of any religious, political, or other outside daily activity. We will not solicit contributions nor distribute non-work-related materials during work hours.

RCUOG reserves the right to monitor or review all data and information contained on an employee's RCUOG-issued computer or electronic device, the use of the internet or RCUOG's intranet. We will not tolerate the use of RCUOG resources to create, access, store, print, solicit or send any materials that are harassing, threatening, abusive, sexually explicit, or otherwise offensive or inappropriate. Questions about the proper use of RCUOG resources should be directed to your manager.

## **5. RCUOG EMPLOYMENT HIRING POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

Employees of the Research Corporation are employed to deliver grant or externally funded objectives. Employees can be full-time or part-time. Full-time employees will generally work 40 hours per week, receive Social Security and Medicare, and shall be entitled to benefits including annual leave, sick leave, holiday pay, medical/dental insurance, and a 403(b) plan. Part-time employee benefits include Social Security and Medicare at a minimum. Other benefits may be available depending on the number of hours worked and availability of funds.

**Equal Employment Opportunity:** the RCUOG's Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) policy encompasses the principle that all qualified and eligible job applicants have the right to fair hiring practices. Only after a unit has reviewed qualified and eligible candidates should the most suitable person(s) be selected. RCUOG's commitment to EEO is displayed through a system of established hiring procedures that assures all qualified and eligible applicants receive fair treatment. All units are encouraged to familiarize themselves with such procedures. EEO is a policy of the University of Guam and required by federal law by any organization receiving federal funds. Non-compliance by any one unit could result in fines and penalties for the RCUOG and the University of Guam to include the loss of federal funding.

### **Employee Job Titles and Descriptions**

Job titles and descriptions as well as minimum education and work experience can be obtained from the RCUOG website. These positions have been benchmarked to the RCUOG General Pay Plan and have been assigned a pay grade. New positions can be created but require a position description to be developed and approved by the unit administrator; new position descriptions will undergo review and approval by RCUOG executive director and the UOG chief human resources officer.

### **General Pay Plan**

The RCUOG General Pay Plan is a guide established to maintain reasonable pay equity for all employees. In general, all initial appointments will be offered at Step 1 of the appropriate pay grade assigned to the job title. As in all competitive job markets, budgets, special demands, and other unique circumstances, may influence a department's hourly rate offer. Therefore, there are circumstances where a step higher than Step 1 may be offered. In general, offers are not to exceed Step 10 of the pay grade. In extraordinary circumstances, an above Step 10 hire is necessary. The unit must provide documentation supporting the request to hire above Step 10.

### **5.1 Recruitment**

1. Employee positions must be established within RCUOG.
2. The unit will submit a request to announce memo to RCUOG HR team which includes recommended job title and detailed job information such as title, grade, step, hourly rate, etc. The unit dean or director must approve the request to announce memo.
3. RCUOG certifying officer will certify the funding and the RCUOG executive director will approve the request to announce / hire memo for 20-week hires. The job announcement will be posted on the RCUOG website.
4. The unit will establish a selection committee for each job announcement. Generally, the

committee should consist of at least three (3) individuals from UOG or RCUOG. The committee chair may be appointed by the unit administrator, or the committee members may select the chair. The committee chair ensures that all RCUOG hiring policies and procedures are carried out. At least one member of the committee must be a UOG or RCUOG employee.

## **5.2 Notification**

1. Job announcements are created in standard format and assigned RCUOG job numbers. Job announcements are available online at [www.uog.edu/rcuog](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog), People Admin, Hire Guam, and HandShake website for student positions. Generally, announcements are posted for seven (7) calendar days. Units may request a job announcement to be posted online for a longer time in their request to announce memo. Applications shall be accepted only during the filing period specified in the announcement.
2. Applicants can review available jobs online and apply for those employment opportunities that interest them.
3. Applicants are required to complete a RCUOG employment application on People Admin.
4. Applicants may upload documents, such as resumes, transcripts or letters of recommendation as required by the job announcement, via People Admin or email to [rcuoghr@triton.uog.edu](mailto:rcuoghr@triton.uog.edu). RCUOG HR will review applications and the respective unit's selection committee will be advised of a qualified pool of applicants who meet minimum qualifications.
5. Committee members will review the qualified pool of applicants and select individuals to interview. The chair of the committee will submit a memo to RCUOG documenting the individuals selected for interviews, justification for such selection, and a preferred interview date and time. RCUOG HR will coordinate with EEO and the selected candidates regarding interviews.
6. The committee chair will submit interview questions to RCUOG HR. RCUOG HR will submit the questions to EEO to ensure questions comply with EEO regulations.
7. If there is only one (1) qualified applicant, and the applicant's work product is known to the PI and/or the search committee, then the committee can forego the interview process and proceed directly to the hiring process.

## **5.3 Interviewing**

1. Search committees should interview qualified applicants who have been referred by RCUOG through the review process. If there are less than five (5) qualified applicants, RCUOG recommends search committees interview all the qualified applicants in the pool. If there are more than five (5) qualified candidates, RCUOG recommends search committees interview a maximum of five (5) qualified candidates in the applicant pool. Applicants who meet minimum qualifications and who have submitted the required documents are eligible to be interviewed.
2. A reasonable period (not less than a week) of time should be allowed for the committee to schedule and conduct interviews so that all qualified and eligible applicants may be fairly interviewed. RCUOG HR will coordinate with EEO and the

applicants regarding interview days and times.

3. All interview questions should be non-discriminatory and must be approved by EEO in advance of the interviews.
4. After interviews have been conducted, the committee should perform a reference check. Once the reference check is performed, the committee sends a recommendation memo to the unit administrator for approval. The approved memo is then routed to RCUOG HR for certification, final approval, and processing. Once approved, RCUOG HR emails the candidate an official employment offer.
5. Other candidates will be informed by RCUOG HR of the unit's hiring decision so applicants may continue their job search.

#### **5.4 Hiring**

1. Once an applicant accepts the job offer, RCUOG will prepare a Personnel Action (RC-1).
2. Form I-9 is a federal document to determine one's eligibility to work in the U.S. and is required by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services office. This document is completed in-person at the RCUOG office on or before the employee's FIRST DAY of work.
3. The employee must submit original police and court clearances to RCUOG HR before they report for their first day of work to ensure compliance with 4 G.C.A. §4203.3.
4. The employee must submit a completed tuberculosis (TB) screening form before they report for their first day of work. Section 25103, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated requires employees to be screened annually for tuberculosis as a condition of employment or doing volunteer work. TB screening form is available on RCUOG website at [www.uog.edu/rcuog/](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog/).
5. The employee must complete the RCUOG onboarding packet before their first day of work. The packet will include Employee withholding allowance certificate (Form W-4), SWICA form (PL 19-22), employee master form, designation of survivor or survivors form, direct deposit authorization form, and the sexual misconduct training form, among others.
6. Tax form W-4 (federal tax withholding), SWICA Form, the direct deposit authorization form, and designation of survivor or survivors form are submitted to UOG Payroll office for processing.
7. Employees must submit official transcripts to RCUOG on or before their onboarding date. Twenty (20)-week hires do not need to submit official transcripts.
8. Employees **shall not** begin working until their Personnel Action (RC-1) is approved by RCUOG and signed by the employee. *NOTE: Incomplete or incorrectly completed forms will result in a processing delay.*

#### **5.5 Twenty (20) Week Limited Term Hiring**

Employees may be hired for a maximum of twenty (20) weeks working forty (40) hours or less per week. This is used when the immediate hire of an employee is critical to meet the performance outcomes of the grant or project. The principal investigator and unit administrator must submit a hire memo for certification and follow 5.4 Hiring Steps 1 through 8. The individual must complete and submit an RCUOG application, original police and court clearances, submit transcripts, letters of recommendation, TB Results, or other documentation as required by the principal investigator

and unit administrator. Generally, limited term twenty (20) week hires may not be extended beyond the twenty (20) week maximum.

### **5.6 Hiring for Post-Doctoral Positions**

The rate of pay and the person selected to fill the post-doctoral position are determined by the principal investigator and the unit administrator. The principal investigator and unit administrator must submit a hire memo for certification and follow 5.4 Hiring Steps 1-8. The individual must complete and submit an RCUOG application, original police and court clearance, submit transcripts, letters of recommendation, TB Results, or other documentation as required by the principal investigator and unit administrator. Individuals hired for post-doctoral positions may be hired without a search process, but principal investigators may decide to run a search for the position.

### **5.7 Faculty Hires**

University of Guam faculty members hired to work on grants are not subject to a search process. UOG faculty are principal investigators, co-principal investigators, mentors, researchers, analysts, etc. and are written into proposals approved by federal agencies or are hired specially because of their area of expertise to carry out grant deliverables as directed by the principal investigator. RCUOG personnel actions use UOG faculty position titles and their grant function i.e., Professor/Co-Principal Investigator. The rate of pay is the faculty member's hourly rate as determined by their UOG institutional based salary. Faculty hires must follow the following process:

1. A hire memo addressed to the RCUOG executive director must be signed by the grant PI/Faculty, the PI/Faculty supervisor/Dean. The memo details the start and end dates, maximum number of hours a faculty member will work during the employment period, account number and other information. All faculty members hired by RCUOG are part-time employees. In general, faculty members are allowed to work sixteen (16) hours per PPE during regular semesters and up to thirty-nine (39) hours per week during intersession, spring break, and summer break (for those faculty on nine-month appointments) across all projects in which they are engaged.  
Faculty grant work is guided by Board of Regents Resolution No. 22-22 or subsequent approved guideline or policy.
2. UOG faculty members do not need to complete an I-9 form as one exists in their UOG personnel file. A copy can be transferred to their RCUOG personnel file.
3. Faculty who have court and police clearances in their UOG personnel file can have a copy transferred to their RCUOG file. Otherwise, faculty must submit original police and court clearances to RCUOG.
4. Faculty must submit up to date PPD test results to RCUOG as required by public law.
5. Faculty members **shall not** begin grant work until their Personnel Action (RC-1) is approved by RCUOG, UOG HRO, and signed by the faculty member.



## **6. RCUOG LEAVE, ATTENDANCE, AND ABSENTEEISM POLICY**

RCUOG Leave, Attendance, and Absenteeism Policy applies to full-time employees and covers the following:

- Annual Leave
- Sick Leave
- Administrative Leave
  - Travel Status
  - Jury Duty
  - Military Duty
  - Voting in primary and general elections
  - Workers' Compensation
  - Pregnancy Related Medical Leave and Parental Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Attendance, Tardiness, Absenteeism
- Family and Medical Leave Act
- Biweekly Attendance Report

### **6.1 Annual Leave**

RCUOG full-time employees earn annual leave per pay period on the following basis:

1. Employees with less than five (5) years of full-time employment with RCUOG earn four (4) hours of annual leave per pay period for a maximum of 104 hours of annual leave per year.
2. Employees with five (5) to fifteen (15) years of full-time employment with RCUOG earn six (6) hours of annual leave per pay period for a maximum of 156 hours of annual leave per year.
3. Upon completion of their 15<sup>th</sup> year of full-time employment with RCUOG, employees earn eight (8) hours of annual leave per pay period for a maximum of 208 hours of annual leave per year.

Employees requesting annual leave must have their leave forms signed and approved by their supervisor/unit administrator prior to the date they plan to use the leave.

It is the employee's responsibility to obtain leave approvals from the appropriate parties. RCUOG recommends that employees pre-plan leave in advance of the requested leave date and ensure that all leave forms for each pay period are approved and attached to their timesheet.

Employees are encouraged to use their accrued annual leave each year. Employees cannot cash out leave at the end of a fiscal year. Employees may carry over a maximum of eighty (80) hours of unused annual leave and eighty (80) hours of unused sick leave to the subsequent fiscal year.

Accrued employee annual and sick leave exceeding the eighty (80) hour threshold per category will be forfeited on September 30 of each year. Leave accrual occurs only if the employee is on paid status for eighty (80) hours (two 40-hour work weeks) in a pay period. If at any point during the two (2) weeks an employee goes on leave without pay, no leave accrual occurs. As a rule of general practice, leave must be approved prior to leave taken or at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance. Extended vacation of more than one (1) week should be approved forty-eight (48) hours

in advance. Annual leave accrual occurs only if the employee is on paid status.

## **6.2 Sick Leave**

RCUOG full-time employees earn four (4) hours of sick leave per pay period for a maximum of 104 hours per year. Sick leave of more than three (3) consecutive days in duration requires a doctor's certification. RCUOG employees do not participate in the Government of Guam leave sharing program. Sick leave accrual occurs only if the employee is on paid status.

Sick leave with pay is allowed whenever:

- The employee is compelled to be absent from duty on account of physical or mental illness; injury; mental health examination, counseling, or treatment; pregnancy; childbirth; medical, dental, or optical examination or treatment; or because of quarantine due to the employee's or another's illness.
- The employee must be absent from duty to provide health care for a member of the employee's immediate family due to serious illness or injury.
  - Serious illness or injury means an urgent condition that is certified by the attending physician as requiring hospitalization, institutionalization, or extended home care in which the person needs the constant administration of special medical care or support.
  - Immediate family member means the employee's spouse, common law, parents, parents-in-law, grandparents, brothers, sisters, children, grandchildren, any step or adoptive parents, adopted children or grandchildren of both the employee and the spouse, a guardian or person in loco parentis.
- Sick leave with pay shall be allowed during leaves of absence or vacation, provided, however, that any sick leave taken while on vacation must be supported by a certificate issued by a licensed physician. No employee shall be allowed to undertake gainful employment while on sick leave status.

## **6.3 Administrative Leave**

Paid administrative leave will be granted to eligible RCUOG employees who are on travel status, military duty, are voting in primary or general elections, pregnancy-related medical leave or parental leave, Worker's Compensation, and jury duty provided that documents supporting administrative leave are attached to the leave request (i.e., military orders in the case of military duty or a jury certification document from the court in the case of jury duty). Any earnings from the court when on jury duty and paid administrative leave should be surrendered to the RCUOG office.

In the case of military leave, documents must be filed in employee's official personnel jacket. Full-time employees are allowed a maximum of fifteen (15) working days of military duty leave per fiscal year per Public Law 22-54. USERRA laws relative to extended military duty leave

apply.

Pregnancy related medical leave shall be granted to a full-time employee because of pregnancy, childbirth, or medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth. Pregnancy related medical leave shall consist of paid administrative leave not to exceed ten (10) working days, encompassing the date of the childbirth. The employee must submit a copy of their child's birth certificate and leave form to RCUOG to receive paid pregnancy related medical leave within five (5) business days after birth.

Parental leave shall be granted to full-time employees upon the birth of a child or adoption of a child five years or younger. Parental leave consists of paid administrative leave not to exceed twenty (20) working days. The employee must submit a copy of their child's birth certificate or adoption certificate and leave form to RCUOG to receive paid parental leave within five (5) business days after birth.

After pregnancy related medical leave and parental leave have been exhausted, a full-time employee may use accrued sick and annual leave and/or compensatory time to care for their newborn. All leave combined (pregnancy related medical, parental, sick, annual, compensatory) may not exceed forty (40) workdays.

The employee may seek unpaid leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) which allows a maximum of twelve (12) weeks of unpaid leave per year inclusive of pregnancy-related medical leave, parental leave, annual leave, sick leave, and compensatory leave. FMLA leave is combined with all other leave so that the employee is capped at a maximum of twelve (12) weeks or sixty (60) workdays. Employees who pursue FMLA, and are eligible to participate in the program, must understand that they will be responsible for the employee share and employer share of their medical and dental insurance coverage. For more information on FMLA visit:

[www.dol.gov/general/topic/benefits-leave/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/general/topic/benefits-leave/fmla)

## **6.4 Paid Holidays**

RCUOG provides paid leave for full-time employees on the following 12 observed holidays:

New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Third Monday in January
Guam History and Chamorro Heritage Day	First Monday in March
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Independence Day	July 4
Liberation Day	July 21
Labor Day	First Monday in September
All Souls Day	November 2
Veterans Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Fourth Thursday in November

Santa Maria Kamalen Day

December 8

Christmas Day

December 25

*In the event that the Governor of Guam declares an observed holiday, eligible employees will receive pay for that day. Holidays that fall on Saturdays are observed on the Friday before the holiday; holidays that fall on Sundays are observed on the Monday following the holiday.*

*Employees who work on a holiday receive eight (8) hours of regular pay plus their regular hourly rate of pay for every hour worked on the holiday. Supervisors must approve holiday work in advance.*

## **6.5 Attendance**

Your timely attendance at work is crucial to ensuring grant and contract work runs smoothly. You need to do your part to achieve this goal, and one way is to maintain a good attendance record. Even though you will be treated as a professional and will behave as one, general absence guidelines are nevertheless necessary to ensure that we are able to conduct business in a predictable manner. Your supervisor needs to know, in advance where possible, when you will be absent from work. Here are those guidelines:

### Authorized Absences

Employees are expected to be at work and to work their assigned schedule, except for authorized absences. Authorized absences are absences approved by the principal investigator and unit administrator for annual, sick, or administrative leave.

### Notification Procedure

To obtain an authorized absence, submit a leave form or, in cases when it is impossible to plan and notify your supervisor that you are unable to come to work. Generally, notification should be made no later than your regular start time.

### Failure to Notify

Unauthorized absences of five (5) or more consecutive days without notice will be considered as a voluntary termination and we will remove you from the payroll. Repeated absences without authorization could result in counseling, suspension, or termination.

Repeated occurrences for failure to notify, chronic tardiness, and/or chronic absenteeism may result in disciplinary action.

### Authorized Absence Documentation

Documentation of authorized administrative leave must be approved before leave is taken. Documentation of sick leave in excess of three (3) consecutive days is required. Verification of the documentation may be conducted.

### Leave Without Pay

Leave without pay is highly discouraged. The principal investigator and unit administrator must approve leave without pay requests. An employee on leave without pay status does not accrue

sick leave and annual leave or earn Social Security benefits. Medical and dental insurance coverage are also affected. The employee on leave without pay must cover the employer's and the employee's share of healthcare coverage costs.

## **6.6 Workers' Compensation**

The Department of Labor's Office of Workers' Compensation Programs administers four major disability compensation programs which provides to workers (or their dependents) who are injured at work or acquire an occupational disease: wage replacement benefits, medical treatment, vocational rehabilitation, other benefits. For more information visit the U.S. Department of Labor website at: [www.dol.gov/general/topic/workcomp](http://www.dol.gov/general/topic/workcomp). If you are injured at work, you must be seen at Guam Memorial Hospital or Guam Regional Medical City and follow steps as outlined here: [www.uog.edu/rcuog/policies-and-forms#Worker-s-Compensation](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog/policies-and-forms#Worker-s-Compensation)

The RCUOG executive director must be notified and must sign Worker's Compensation Commission forms authorizing an employee to seek medical treatment for a work-related injury.

## **6.7 Family Medical Leave Act**

RCUOG employees may avail themselves of the Family Medical Leave Act and take leave without pay in specific circumstances. Visit the U.S. Department of Labor website for more information: [www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla)

## **6.8 Biweekly Attendance Report**

All employees of sponsored activities managed by RCUOG are required to submit signed time sheets biweekly to accurately document their total work activity for the reporting period. UOG faculty and administrators are required to submit an approved time and effort form documenting time spent on grant activities. The timesheet will be verified by a Responsible Official who will attest to the time allocated and reasonableness of the work performed and then submit the document to the department/unit timekeeper.

The employee, the responsible official, and the timekeeper are collectively accountable for the timely preparation and integrity of the time and effort documentation. If there are changes in actual hours worked, the employee and/or the responsible official must notify the timekeeper who will make necessary adjustments, to include: 1) the changes are reflected on the signed timesheet, 2) the responsible official initials the changes, and 3) a reason for the change is documented on the signed timesheet.

Administrators, principal investigators, supervisors, and employees should review the RCUOG Policy and Procedures for Time and Effort Reporting for more details and definitions. This document can be found at [www.uog.edu/rcuog](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog).

## **7 SALARY INCREMENTS AND EMPLOYEE EVALUATION POLICY**

With the approval of the unit administrator and the RCUOG executive director, and availability of funds, an employee may be granted a salary increment following twelve (12) months of satisfactory performance of their duties. An employee will receive a one-step increase based on the grade and step of the employee's current salary level. Each RCUOG position is assigned a pay grade which is aligned to the RCUOG General Pay Plan. Employee increments will reflect the amount listed in next step on the pay grade to which the job position is assigned.

RCUOG employees will be evaluated on their work performance on an annual basis. Evaluations are placed in employee files. A unit/PI may recommend an additional step increase, based on availability of funds, if an employee has completed their undergraduate degree, graduate degree, or completed a substantive certification or training requirement. An increment can be warranted when an employee assumes additional duties. In all cases, the unit/PI must submit a memo which justifies the increase and funds must be certified.

A sample performance review document is posted on the RCUOG website [www.uog.edu/rcuog/policies-and-forms#Forms](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog/policies-and-forms#Forms). Units may use their own employee evaluation documents to assess an employee's performance. Performance reviews must include the following signatures: employee, the employee's supervisor, the unit administrator, and the RCUOG executive director.

### *Full-Time Employees*

Increments will be awarded according to the following timelines depending on whether there is funding in the grant or contract to support the pay increase.

- Annual increments may be awarded to full-time employees when merited and are based on the completion of twelve (12) months of satisfactory work performance, a satisfactory employment evaluation, and funding.
- Full-time employees at Steps 1-18 on the RCUOG pay scale will receive a one-step increment after twelve (12) months of satisfactory performance.
- Employees at Steps 19+ will receive an increment equivalent of up to 3% of an employee's base salary after twenty-four (24) months of satisfactory performance.
- An increment may be awarded to those employees who complete an undergraduate or graduate degree with the submission of a memo from the PI, signed by the unit administrator, documenting satisfactory job performance and attainment of degree or other significant training or certification. Official transcripts noting degree completion must be attached to the memo.

### Part-Time Employees

Increments will be awarded according to the following timelines depending on whether there is funding in the grant or contract to support the pay increase. The following is general rule for part-time employees but may not apply to all grant or contract funded positions.

- Increments may be awarded to part-time employees when merited and are based on satisfactory employee evaluation and work performances and funding.
- Part-time employees at Steps 1-18 on the RCUOG pay scale will receive an increment after twelve (12) months of satisfactory performance.
- Part-time employees at Steps 19+ will receive an increment equivalent of up to 3% of an employee's base salary after twenty-four (24) months of satisfactory performance.

### **Procedure for Implementing Increments**

1. The employee's annual performance evaluation and a memo recommending an increment must be completed by the principal investigator and approved by the unit administrator.
2. The memo and performance evaluation are routed to RCUOG for certification and approval by the RCUOG executive director.
3. Approved documents are processed by RCUOG HR and an RC-1 personnel action or RC-2 amendment is created.
4. RCUOG HR contacts the unit/employee to sign the personnel action, if necessary.
5. RCUOG HR keys-in the new hourly rate into the employee's record in the software system and files the document in the employee's personnel jacket.

## **8 AMENDING PERSONNEL ACTIONS AND EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION**

### **8.1 RC-2**

Personnel action can be amended subject to an approved memo from the unit director which includes employee name, employee number, position title, and effective date of amendment. Memo is forwarded to RCUOG for the following amendments:

8.1.1 Employee name change

8.1.2 Change of employment period

8.1.3 Conversion from part-time to full-time (or vice versa) or increase in work hours

8.1.4 Increase in hourly rate/salary after employee evaluation, certification, and approval

8.1.5 Inclusion of benefits

8.1.6 Change of unit/department or account number

8.1.7 Change of position title

### **8.2 Verification of Employment**

Verification of employment may be obtained at the RCUOG main office located in House #24, Dean Circle, UOG campus. VOE requests must be sent to [rcuoghr@triton.uog.edu](mailto:rcuoghr@triton.uog.edu).



## 9 **VOLUNTEER POLICY**

Supervisors must ensure that volunteers working on any RCUOG project must complete the Volunteer Agreement form which can be downloaded from the RCUOG website at [www.uog.edu/rcuog/](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog/).

## 10 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Benefits received will be determined by the employee's job status as either a full-time or part-time employee.

### All employees (except those on J-1 and F-1 visas):

Social Security and Medicare

### Part-time employees working between 20 to 39 hours per week\*:

Medical Insurance

Dental Insurance

*\*Medical and dental benefits may be offered to part-time employees depending on whether there is funding in the grant or contract to support the employer portion of medical and dental benefit premiums and whether or not there is a provider available willing to provide affordable coverage.*

*\*Part-time employees who do not earn enough hours to cover the employee share of insurance costs must pay for both the employee and employer share of the costs. RCUOG employees must work 20 or more hours to qualify for insurance.*

### Full-time employees only:

Medical Insurance

Dental Insurance

Paid Holidays (GovGuam observed holidays)

Annual Leave Accrual

Sick Leave Accrual

Maximum 3% match for 403(b) pre-tax or Roth account

*\*Twenty-week part-time or full-time hires are not eligible for medical and dental insurance benefits or a maximum 3% match for 403(b) pre-tax or Roth account.*

RCUOG offers medical and dental insurance plans. Eligible employees have a choice between two medical plans: a high deductible plan or a plan that is more expensive but offers more coverage.

Eligible employees can sign up for a healthcare plan at the RCUOG office on their first day of work and have 30 days from their initial date of hire to enroll. Information regarding medical and dental coverage is available from the RCUOG website: [www.uog.edu/rcuog](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog). Note that employees on leave without pay status must pay the employer and employee share of insurance premiums.

## **11 RCUOG EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION**

RCUOG HR will notify the employee when the following documents, if applicable, are ready for signature:

- Termination RC-T form
- On-campus separation clearance form – this form lists the various units that need to sign off indicating that employees have no outstanding debts, materials, etc.
- Cancellation of health insurance and 403B form.

Employees must return equipment assigned to them within two (2) days of their resignation date. Employees must check with their specific unit administrators if there are any unit-specific actions required upon resignation.

All resources purchased through RCUOG are property of RCUOG and must be left in office of the unit to which the employee was assigned. Prior to departure, employees must provide their supervisor with any passwords assigned to them for access to RCUOG or UOG systems so they can be accessed, and the passwords updated. Employees must provide a written update regarding the status of the projects on which they worked.

## **12 SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENT, OVERTIME, AND COMPENSATORY TIME OFF POLICY**

The following guidelines provide a process for non-exempt RCUOG employees to adjust their schedules, submit over-time, or submit compensatory time-off requests to their supervisors.

### **12.1 Definitions**

Exempt employees are those employees who fill executive, professional, and administrative positions. This definition includes principal investigators and others whose primary duties include managing a department, subdivision, or major grant. Exempt employees primary duties require knowledge of an advanced type in a field of science or learning. Exempt employees do not earn overtime.

Non-exempt employees are employees who earn less than \$455 per week; are hourly based employees who do not have supervisory duties, primarily perform clerical duties, or primarily perform manual duties.

### **12.2 Schedule Adjustment**

Schedule Adjustment is the preferred means for accommodating changes in work schedules to accommodate for evening or weekend work related activities. It is a process by which employees may request for an alternate work schedule for the forty (40) hour work week. Schedule adjustment forms will be kept for three (3) years as part of the employee's time and effort/payroll records by the unit administrator through the unit's official timekeeper.

No leave form is required for Schedule Adjustments as all hours are adjusted within the regular work week and are maintained within the unit.

### **12.3 Overtime (OT)**

Overtime is work over forty (40) hours within a given workweek Sunday through Saturday. An available local funding source may be used for OT but must be approved in advance by the appropriate unit administrator. If charging OT costs to a Federal grant, the Federal program administrator must approve OT in advance and this approval must be communicated in writing to the unit. Federally funded employees are eligible for CTO or a schedule adjustment in lieu of OT; if a schedule adjustment cannot be accommodated, employees should be encouraged to take compensatory time off (CTO). OT for eligible employees must be approved in advance by the employee's supervisor and unit administrator or PI.

### **12.4 Compensatory Time Off (CTO)**

In lieu of overtime (OT), compensatory time off (CTO) is offered for qualified hours worked over forty (40) in the work week (defined as Sunday to Saturday) and must be **approved in advance** in writing by the appropriate unit administrator. All non-exempt employees shall be eligible for CTO, calculated at 1.5 hours for every qualified hour worked over the forty (40) hours in a work week and properly documented by the unit timekeeper. Employees are not

authorized to work more than fourteen (14) hours in one (1) day and twenty-eight (28) hours in a forty-eight (48) hour two (2) day period. Earned CTO must be used within two (2) pay periods from when earned. Unit administrators must manage, coordinate and document CTO, and the schedule adjustment process.

### **12.5 Travel**

Full-time employees earning less than \$455 per week may earn CTO when travel occurs outside the normal Monday through Friday work week. For example, if a person flies out on a Saturday, after working a forty (40) hour week, then that person can earn CTO for the hours spent flying from 8AM to 5PM on that Saturday, but not for the rest of the time spent flying. If an individual flies out on a weekday, then that person is paid eight (8) hours for that day for hours normally worked and does not receive additional CTO. Maximum hours of CTO earned if flying out on a Saturday or Sunday is eight (8) hours; maximum hours of CTO earned on the return flight to Guam on a Saturday or Sunday is eight hours. All other employees who earn more than \$455 per week are not eligible for CTO while traveling.

### **12.6 Working at Home**

RCUOG does not have a “Work from Home” or “Teleworking” policy. Staff are not allowed to work from home or telework unless approved, in advance, by the unit administrator. RCUOG reserves the right to allow or disallow such practices to ensure program goals and outcomes can be achieved effectively and efficiently.

### **13 RCUOG POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR TIME AND EFFORT REPORTING**

The RCUOG Policy and Procedures for Time and Effort Reporting ensures that effort expended on sponsored activities justifies the salaries charged to those projects. This policy complies with the Office of Management and Budget/Office of Federal Financial Management Super-circular, 2 CFR 200, also referred to as the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirement for Federal Awards.

All employees of sponsored activities managed by RCUOG are required to adhere to this policy. Principal Investigators are reminded that by accepting federal funds, they are accepting the obligation to comply with time and effort reporting.

For complete policy details, download document from [www.uog.edu/rcuog](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog).

## **14 RCUOG INTERNET, EMAIL, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND EQUIPMENT POLICY**

### **14.1 Internet and Email Usage and Equipment**

Internet access and email assigned to an employee's office computer is for the purpose of conducting RCUOG business. Internet access and e-mail systems are provided by the RCUOG at its expense for business use, therefore all messages sent by or received on those systems are organization documents. During work hours employees should limit their use of the computer, internet, and email for personal purposes. As an RCUOG employee, you play a key role in ensuring that work-related information that is discussed or disseminated is kept confidential. RCUOG confidential information must not be shared outside of RCUOG. You should always protect the confidentiality of your user ID, password, and all accounts you use to access data processing resources and facilities.

Under no circumstances may RCUOG owned computers or other electronic equipment, including devices owned by the employee, be used on RCUOG time, to obtain, view, or reach any pornographic internet sites or forward pornographic email. Any employee doing so is subject to the harassment policy and may lead to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment. RCUOG reserves the right to access and to disclose the messages that you send or receive on the e-mail systems. Employees should also be aware that "deleted" messages from the computer screen may not actually be deleted from the e-mail system.

Any email content that discriminates against any protected classification including age, race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, or gender identity), national origin, or disability is prohibited. Any employee who sends email that violates this policy will be subject to the harassment policy. RCUOG owns any communication sent via email or that is stored on corporation equipment. Management and other authorized RCUOG staff have the right to access any material in your email or on your computer at any time. Please do not consider your electronic communication, storage, or access to be private if it is created or stored on work systems.

### **14.2 Social Media**

Ensure that your social media activity does not interfere with your work commitments. Employees are prohibited from sharing any confidential or protected information that belongs to or is about the RCUOG on social media.

Participation in social media content that discriminates against any protected classification including age, race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, or gender identity), national origin, disability, is prohibited. Any employee who violates this policy is subject to the harassment policy and may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

## **15 RCUOG PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE POLICY**

RCUOG uses progressive discipline to address an employee's work performance issues and/or inappropriate behavior, including non-compliance with RCUOG policies and procedures. The intent of progressive discipline is to help employees correct their issue(s) to become successful, productive workers. Progressive discipline provides managers and supervisors with a consistent and fair process for handling disciplinary issues. Any employee conduct that, in the opinion of the RCUOG, interferes with or adversely affects our operations is sufficient grounds for disciplinary action. This action can range from verbal warnings to immediate discharge. Depending on the conduct, it is our general policy to take disciplinary steps in the following order:

1. Verbal Warnings
2. Written Warnings
  - A written warning form is posted on the RCUOG Website at [www.uog.edu/rcuog/policies-and-forms#Forms](http://www.uog.edu/rcuog/policies-and-forms#Forms)
3. Suspension
4. Termination

To decide on the appropriate action, we may consider the seriousness of your conduct, your employment record, your ability to correct the conduct, actions we have taken for similar conduct by other employees, how your action affects clients or partners, and other circumstances.

Some conduct may result in immediate dismissal. Here are examples:

- Acting violently or threatening to do so
- Theft of RCUOG property
- Excessive tardiness or absenteeism
- Arguing or fighting with customers or coworkers
- Using or possessing alcohol or illegal drugs at work
- Coming to work under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- Failing to carry out reasonable job assignments
- Making false statements in a job application
- Violating organization rules and regulations, and
- Unlawful discrimination or harassment

These are only examples. You may terminate your employment at any time; the RCUOG reserves the same right.



## **16 RCUOG GRIEVANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

RCUOG realizes that there will be occasions when our employees may wish to formally raise issues or complaints about the Corporation or other employees. While in most cases these complaints can be resolved informally, we endeavor to effectively address any grievances that remain unresolved through the procedure outlined below.

Grievances are concerns, problems, or complaints that employees raise with management. Some issues that can cause grievances include:

- Terms and conditions of employment
- Health and safety
- Work relations
- Bullying and harassment
- New working practices
- Working environment
- Organizational change
- Discrimination

This grievance procedure applies to all employees but does not confer any contractual rights.

Any employee pursuing a grievance should continue to work as usual while the grievance is being investigated. Generally, the status quo will be maintained during the grievance process unless doing so could result in serious problems for the employee or the RCUOG.

An employee who filed a grievance may be accompanied by a fellow employee, friend or relative (but not an attorney) at any stage of the procedure.

Where a grievance is against your immediate supervisor or line manager, the matter should be raised with the next manager above that person, or the RCUOG Executive Director.

### **Grievance Procedure**

#### **Step 1**

A grievance begins with a written statement about the complaint or issue the employee has which may be submitted to the employee's supervisor or, if the employee's grievance is against the supervisor, the grievance is submitted to the supervisor's manager, or the RCUOG Executive Director. An informal meeting between management and the employee who lodged the grievance will be arranged within five (5) working days. The employee will be allowed to explain their grievance and how they think it should be resolved. Discussion with management results in a remedy for the grievance. The remedy is communicated by management to the employee in writing within five (5) working days after the meeting; the process ends.

OR

Management may need time to investigate the facts and will call for another meeting within a reasonable amount of time but no more than ten (10) working days to allow management to gather information.

### Step 2

A second meeting will be arranged no later than ten (10) working days after the initial meeting and management will review the facts with the employee. Management's decision regarding the grievance and a resolution, if any, to be implemented will be communicated to the employee in writing within five (5) working days after the meeting; the grievance process ends.

### Step 3

Appeal – the employee feels that his/her grievance has not been satisfactory resolved. The employee may appeal in writing to the UOG chief human resources officer within ten (10) working days after receiving the resolution from management. The UOG chief human resources officer will review the file and meet with the employee and RCUOG management regarding the outcome. The UOG CHRO has the final word on a RCUOG grievance appeal; the process ends.

### **Reporting**

RCUOG executive director will report grievances and appeals and their outcomes to the Board of Directors on a regular basis, as necessary.

## **17 RCUOG HARASSMENT AND BULLYING POLICY**

The purpose of this policy is to communicate to all employees, including supervisors, managers, and executives, that RCUOG will not *in any instance* tolerate bullying behavior. Employees found in violation of this policy will be disciplined, up to and including termination.

### **Definition**

RCUOG defines bullying as repeated inappropriate behavior, either direct or indirect, whether verbal, physical or otherwise, conducted by one or more persons against another or others, at the place of work and/or in the course of employment. Such behavior violates RCUOG's Code of Ethics, which clearly states that all employees will be treated with dignity and respect.

### **Examples**

Bullying may be intentional or unintentional. However, it must be noted that when an allegation of bullying is made, the intention of the alleged bully is irrelevant, and will not be given consideration when meting out discipline. As in sexual harassment, it is the effect of the behavior on the individual that is important. RCUOG considers the following types of behavior examples of bullying:

- Verbal bullying: Slandering, ridiculing, or maligning a person or his or her family; persistent name calling that is hurtful, insulting or humiliating; using a person as butt of jokes; abusive and offensive remarks.
- Physical bullying: Pushing, shoving, kicking, poking, tripping, assault or threat of physical assault, damage to a person's work area or property.
- Gesture bullying: Nonverbal threatening gestures; glances that can convey threatening messages.
- Exclusion: Socially or physically excluding or disregarding a person in work-related activities.
- Cyberbullying: sending threatening emails, texts, or other digital communication that slander, ridicule or otherwise intimidate the receiver.

In addition, the following examples may constitute or contribute to evidence of bullying in the workplace:

- Persistent singling out of one person.
- Shouting or raising voice at an individual in public or in private.
- Using verbal or obscene gestures.
- Not allowing the person to speak or express himself or herself (i.e., ignoring or interrupting).
- Personal insults and use of offensive nicknames.
- Public humiliation in any form.
- Constant criticism on matters unrelated or minimally related to the person's job performance or description.
- Ignoring or interrupting an individual at meetings.
- Public reprimands.
- Repeatedly accusing someone of errors that cannot be documented.

- Deliberately interfering with mail and other communications.
- Spreading rumors and gossip regarding individuals.
- Encouraging others to disregard a supervisor's instructions.
- Manipulating the ability of someone to do his or her work (e.g., overloading, underloading, withholding information, assigning meaningless tasks, setting deadlines that cannot be met, giving deliberately ambiguous instructions).
- Inflicting menial tasks not in keeping with the normal responsibilities of the job.
- Taking credit for another person's ideas.
- Refusing reasonable requests for leave in the absence of work-related reasons not to grant leave.
- Deliberately excluding an individual or isolating him or her from work-related activities, such as meetings.
- Unwanted physical contact, physical abuse, or threats of abuse to an individual or an individual's property (defacing or marking up property).

### **Reporting**

All reports of harassment or bullying activities will be promptly submitted to RCUOG or UOG HRO following the Employee Grievance Policy and Procedures in this handbook. Employees with any questions regarding this policy should contact their supervisor, unit administrator or the RCUOG executive director.

## **18 RCUOG COMPREHENSIVE NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

RCUOG does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, disability, age (except for minors), citizenship status, military service status, and/or any other status protected by law, in any of its policies, procedures, or practices in compliance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. RCUOG also complies with the Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974 pertaining to Vietnam Era Veterans and other qualified veterans and the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 that makes it illegal to discriminate because of pregnancy, childbirth, or related conditions.

This non-discrimination policy covers participation and employment in the RCUOG's programs and activities. This policy prohibits retaliation because one has in good faith filed a complaint concerning behavior prohibited by this policy, or has reasonably opposed, reported, or stated the intent to report such behavior, or is participating in a related investigation, proceeding, or hearing regarding such a matter. Inquiries concerning the application and implementation of this policy to programs and activities of the RCUOG may be referred to:

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM EEO/ADA & Title IX Office

Elaine Faculo-Gogue, Interim Director, EEO & Title IX/ADA Coordinator

Phone: 735-2971

E-mail: [efgogue@triton.uog.edu](mailto:efgogue@triton.uog.edu)

Location: Dorm 2, Room #104 Iya Hami Hall, UOG

Station, Mangilao, Guam 96923

Phone: 735-2244

Fax: 734-0430

TDD: 735-2243

E-mail: [eeo-ada@triton.uog.edu](mailto:eeo-ada@triton.uog.edu)

### **18.1 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) Mission Statement**

RCUOG is committed to achieving equal opportunity and full participation of persons with disabilities by providing for non-discriminatory access to its services and facilities through the University of Guam (UOG) ADA Office. The mission of the UOG ADA Office is to ensure non-discriminatory access to all benefits, privileges, opportunities, and obligations to students, faculty, staff, and community members with disabilities and to ensure a process for full compliance by UOG with the ADA of 1990, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, taking into account the economic climate and multi-cultural diversity of the institution.

The UOG ADA Office provides reasonable accommodation for students in accordance with the UOG Policy and Procedure for students and applicants with a disability. The ADA Office can be contacted at telephone number (671) 735-2244 or Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) number (671) 735-2243. The student must directly request for all ADA services four (4) to eight (8) weeks in advance.

### **18.2 Equal Employment Opportunity Mission Statement**

RCUOG is committed to ensuring a work environment free of discrimination and harassment on the basis of any status protected by law, to include race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, religious creed, age, disability, citizenship status, and national origin. Administrators, directors, managers, and supervisors must inform employees of the policies prohibiting discrimination and harassment, emphasize the policy of zero tolerance, and deal promptly with any problem situations. Each of us is expected to maintain high standards of honesty, integrity, and conduct. Discrimination and harassment violate these standards.

Sexual Harassment is a specific form of prohibited harassment and complaints involve sensitive and complex issues. A prompt and effective inquiry into allegations is critical; not only to avoid liability and prevent future harassing behavior, but also to lay the groundwork for successful resolution. A healthy equal opportunity environment does not just happen. It takes commitment and active involvement – by everyone. It is not laws, regulations, or policies that create a quality equal opportunity environment, it is people respecting and encouraging other people.

### **18.3 Title IX Compliance Statement**

RCUOG does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the admission to or employment in its education programs or activities. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX and its implementing regulations may be referred to the University of Guam's Title IX Coordinator, located at the EEO/ADA & TITLE IX Office, Dorm 2 Iya Hami Hall, Room 104, Tel. No. (671) 735- 2244, TDD No.: (671) 735-2243; or to the Office of Civil Rights (OCR).

## **19 RCUOG TOBACCO FREE POLICY**

RCUOG adopts the UOG Tobacco Free policy which includes a total ban on the sales, smoking and the distribution and use of tobacco and tobacco-based products on the UOG Campus and properties. The full policy can be downloaded from the UOG website at [www.uog.edu/smoke-free-uog](http://www.uog.edu/smoke-free-uog).

## **20 RCUOG DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE POLICY**

In compliance with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, RCUOG has a commitment to provide a safe, quality-oriented, and productive work environment consistent with the standards of the community in which the organization operates. Alcohol and drug abuse poses a threat to the health and safety of RCUOG employees and to the security of the organization's equipment and facilities. For these reasons, RCUOG is committed to the elimination of drug and alcohol use and abuse in the workplace.

This policy outlines the practice and procedure designed to correct instances of identified alcohol and drug use in the workplace.

This policy applies to all employees and all applicants for employment of RCUOG.

### **Substance Abuse Awareness**

Illegal drug use and alcohol misuse have many serious adverse health and safety consequences. Information about those consequences and sources of help for drug or alcohol problems is available from the UOG HRO department, which has been trained to make referrals and to assist employees with drug or alcohol problems.

### **Employee Assistance**

RCUOG will assist and support employees who voluntarily seek help for such problems before becoming subject to discipline or termination under this or other RCUOG policies. Such employees will be allowed to use accrued paid time off, placed on leave of absence, referred to treatment providers and otherwise accommodated as required by law. Such employees may be required to document that they are successfully following prescribed treatment and to take and pass follow-up tests if they hold jobs that are safety-sensitive or require driving, or if they have violated this policy previously. Once an employee fails a drug test, unless otherwise required by the Family and Medical Leave Act or the Americans with Disabilities Act, the employee will have forfeited the opportunity to be granted a leave of absence for treatment, and possible discipline, up to and including termination may occur.

Employees should report to work fit for duty and free of any adverse effects of illegal drugs or alcohol. This policy does not prohibit employees from the lawful use and possession of prescribed medications. Employees must, however, consult with their doctors about the medications' effect on their fitness for duty and ability to work safely, and they must promptly disclose any work restrictions to their supervisor. Employees should not, however, disclose to RCUOG underlying medical conditions unless directed to do so.

### **Work Rules**

1. Whenever employees are working, are operating any RCUOG or UOG vehicle, are present on RCUOG or UOG premises or are conducting organization-related work offsite, they are prohibited from:
  - a. Using, possessing, buying, selling, manufacturing, or dispensing an illegal drug (to include possession of drug paraphernalia).
  - b. Being under the influence of alcohol or an illegal drug as defined in this policy.



- c. Possessing or consuming alcohol unless a waiver has been signed by the UOG President for a specific function at a specific time/day.
2. The presence of any detectable amount of any illegal drug or illegal controlled substance in an employee's body system, while performing organization business or while in an organization facility, is prohibited.
3. RCUOG will not allow employees to perform their duties while taking prescribed drugs that are adversely affecting their ability to perform their job duties safely and effectively. Employees taking a prescribed medication must produce the container labeled by a licensed pharmacist if asked to show proof of medication.
4. Any suspected illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia will be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement agency and may result in criminal prosecution.

## **Required Testing**

### Reasonable suspicion

Employees are subject to testing based on (but not limited to) observations by the supervisor of apparent workplace use, possession, or impairment. The RCUOG executive director should be consulted before sending an employee for testing. All levels of supervision making this decision should consult with each other to document specific observations and behaviors that create a reasonable suspicion that the person is under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol. The manager or supervisor should confront the employee with the documentation with another member of management present. Under no circumstances will the employee be allowed to drive himself or herself to the testing facility. A member of supervision/management must escort the employee; the supervisor/manager will make arrangements for the employee to be transported home.

### Post-Accident

Employees are subject to testing when they cause or contribute to accidents that seriously damage a RCUOG or UOG vehicle, machinery, equipment, or property or result in an injury to themselves or others requiring offsite medical attention. A circumstance that constitutes probable belief will be presumed to arise in any instance involving a work-related accident or injury in which an employee who was operating a motorized vehicle (including a forklift, pickup truck, overhead cranes, and aerial/man-lifts) is found to be responsible for causing the accident. In any of these instances, the investigation and subsequent testing must take place within two (2) hours following the accident, if not sooner. Under no circumstances will the employee be allowed to drive himself or herself to the testing facility. A member of supervision/management must escort the employee; the supervisor/manager will make arrangements for the employee to be transported home.

### Follow-Up

Employees who have tested positive, or otherwise violated this policy, are subject to discipline, up to and including termination. Depending on the circumstances and the employee's work history/record, RCUOG may offer an employee who violates this policy or tests positive the opportunity to return to work on a last-chance basis pursuant to mutually agreeable terms, which could include follow-up drug testing at times and frequencies determined by RCUOG for a minimum of one (1) year but not more than two (2) years as well as a waiver of the right to contest any termination resulting from a subsequent positive test. If the employee either does not complete the

rehabilitation program or tests positive after completing the rehabilitation program, the employee will be subject to immediate termination from employment.

### **Collection and Testing Procedures**

Employees subject to alcohol testing should be driven to a RCUOG-designated facility and directed to provide breath specimens. Breath specimens should be tested by trained technicians using federally approved breath alcohol testing devices capable of producing printed results that identify the employee. If an employee's breath alcohol concentration is .04 or more, a second breath specimen should be tested approximately twenty (20) minutes later. The results of the second test should be determinative. Alcohol tests may, however, be a breath, blood, or saliva test, at the corporation's discretion. For purposes of this policy, positive test results generated by law enforcement or medical providers may be considered by the corporation as work rule violations.

Employees subject to drug testing should be driven to a RCUOG-designated medical facility and directed to provide urine specimens. Employees may provide specimens in private unless they appear to be submitting altered, adulterated or substitute specimens. Collected specimens should be sent to a federally certified laboratory and tested for evidence of marijuana, cocaine, opiates, amphetamines, PCP, benzodiazepines, methadone, and crystal methamphetamine use. (Where indicated, specimens may be tested for other illegal drugs.) The laboratory should screen all specimens and confirm all positive screens. There must be a chain of custody from the time specimens are collected through testing and storage.

The laboratory should transmit all positive drug test results to a medical review officer (MRO) retained by RCUOG, who should offer persons with positive results a reasonable opportunity to rebut or explain the results. Individuals with positive test results may also ask the MRO to have their split specimen sent to another federally certified laboratory to be tested at the employee's own expense. Such requests must be made within seventy-two (72) hours of notice of test results. If the second facility fails to find any evidence of drug use in the split specimen, the employee will be treated as passing the test. In no event should a positive test result be communicated to RCUOG until such time that the MRO has confirmed the test to be positive.

### **Consequences**

Employees who refuse to cooperate in required tests or who use, possess, buy, sell, manufacture, or dispense an illegal drug in violation of this policy will be terminated. If the employee refuses to be tested, yet the corporation believes he or she is impaired, under no circumstances will the employee be allowed to drive himself or herself home. The supervisor/manager will make arrangements for the employee to be transported home.

The first time an employee tests positive for alcohol or illegal drug use under this policy, the result will be discipline up to and including termination.

Employees will be paid for time spent in alcohol or drug testing and then suspended pending the results of the drug or alcohol test. After the results of the test are received, a date and time will be scheduled to discuss the results of the test; this meeting will include a member of management/supervision, and UOG HRO. Should the results prove to be negative, the employee will receive back pay for the times/days of suspension.

## **Confidentiality**

Information and records relating to positive test results, drug and alcohol dependencies, and legitimate medical explanations provided to the MRO should be kept confidential to the extent required by law and maintained in secure files separate from normal personnel files. Such records and information may be disclosed among managers and supervisors on a need-to-know basis and may also be disclosed when relevant to a grievance, charge, claim or other legal proceeding initiated by or on behalf of an employee.

## **Inspections**

RCUOG reserves the right to inspect all portions of its premises for drugs, alcohol, or other contraband. All employees, contract employees, and visitors may be asked to cooperate in inspections of their persons, work areas and property that might conceal a drug, alcohol, or other contraband. Employees who possess such contraband or refuse to cooperate in such inspections are subject to appropriate discipline, up to and including termination.

## **Crimes Involving Drugs**

RCUOG prohibits all employees, including employees performing work under government contracts, from manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing, or using an illegal drug in or on corporation premises or while conducting corporation business. RCUOG employees are also prohibited from misusing legally prescribed or over the counter (OTC) drugs. Law enforcement personnel should be notified, as appropriate, when criminal activity is suspected.

RCUOG does not desire to intrude into the private lives of its employees but recognizes that employees' off-the-job involvement with drugs and alcohol may have an impact on the workplace. Therefore, RCUOG reserves the right to take appropriate disciplinary action for drug use, sale, or distribution while off corporation premises. All employees who are convicted of, plead guilty to, or are sentenced for a crime involving an illegal drug are required to report the conviction, plea, or sentence to RCUOG management within five (5) days. Failure to comply will result in automatic termination. Cooperation in complying may result in suspension without pay to allow management to review the nature of the charges and the employee's past record with RCUOG.

## **Definitions**

“Corporation premises” includes all buildings, offices, facilities, grounds, parking lots, lockers, places, and vehicles owned, leased, or managed by RCUOG or UOG or on any site on which the corporation is conducting business.

“Illegal drug” means a substance whose use or possession is controlled by federal law but that is not being used or possessed under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. (Controlled substances are listed in Schedules I-V of 21 C.F.R. Part 1308.)

“Refuse to cooperate” means to obstruct the collection or testing process; to submit an altered, adulterated or substitute sample; to fail to show up for a scheduled test; to refuse to complete the requested drug testing forms; or to fail to promptly provide specimen(s) for testing when directed to do so, without a valid medical basis for the failure. Employees who leave the scene of an accident without justifiable explanation prior to submission to drug and alcohol testing will also be considered to have refused to cooperate and will automatically be subject to termination.

“Under the influence of alcohol” means an alcohol concentration equal to or greater than .04, or actions, appearance, speech, or bodily odors that reasonably cause a supervisor to conclude that an employee is impaired because of alcohol use.

“Under the influence of drugs” means a confirmed positive test result for illegal drug use per this policy. In addition, it means the misuse of legal drugs (prescription and possibly OTC) when there is not a valid prescription from a physician for the lawful use of a drug in the course of medical treatment (containers must include the patient’s name, the name of the substance, quantity/amount to be taken and the period of authorization).

### **Reasonable Suspicion and Post-Accident Testing Protocol**

1. The employee will be advised that RCUOG believes that there is reasonable suspicion to believe that he or she is affected by illegal drugs or alcohol (or due to the nature of the accident, the policy mandates this) and will be tested to confirm or deny this suspicion.
2. The employee will be transported to a testing facility (e.g., health services, prompt care or the emergency department). One member of management or a designated attendant will accompany the employee. *Under no circumstances will the employee be allowed to drive himself or herself to the testing facility.*
3. Prior to leaving for the testing facility, supervision/management will contact the testing facility to inform it that a staff member from RCUOG will be arriving and will need a drug or alcohol test completed.
4. The employee should be provided water to drink prior to leaving the organization premises.
5. The employee should be given reasonable time—not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes—to secure photo ID in the company of a RCUOG representative.
6. The employee to be tested must present a photo ID (i.e., a driver’s license or state ID card) to the testing facility staff before the specimen can be obtained. Ensure that the employee brings the photo ID with him or her when leaving RCUOG premises.
7. The employee to be tested must sign a consent form provided by the testing facility. Refusal to sign is addressed under the “Consequences” section of this document.
8. A RCUOG representative must sign as a witness to the collection procedure, along with the tested employee.
9. After returning to the organization or when leaving the testing facility, the supervisor/manager must make arrangements to transport the person home (unless testing results are immediate and negative). If results are positive, under no circumstances will the tested employee be allowed to drive himself or herself home.

### **Enforcement**

RCUOG is responsible for policy interpretation, administration, and enforcement.

### **Drug and Alcohol Policy Certificate of Receipt**

I hereby certify that I have received a copy of this latest version of the RCUOG Drug and Alcohol Policy, dated \_\_\_\_\_.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## **21 RCUOG WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY**

### **Definition**

A whistleblower as defined by this policy is an employee of RCUOG who reports an activity that he/she considers to be illegal or dishonest to one or more of the parties specified in this policy. The whistleblower is not responsible for investigating the activity or for determining fault or corrective measures; appropriate management officials are charged with these responsibilities. Examples of illegal or dishonest activities are violations of federal, territory, or local laws; billing for services not performed or for goods not delivered; and other fraudulent financial reporting.

If an employee has knowledge of or a concern of illegal or dishonest fraudulent activity, the employee is to contact his/her immediate supervisor or the RCUOG executive director. The employee must exercise sound judgment to avoid baseless allegations. An employee who intentionally files a false report of wrongdoing will be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

### **Protections**

Whistleblower protections are provided in two important areas -- confidentiality and against retaliation. As far as possible, the confidentiality of the whistleblower will be maintained. However, identity may have to be disclosed to conduct a thorough investigation, to comply with the law and to provide accused individuals their legal rights of defense. RCUOG will not retaliate against a whistleblower. This includes, but is not limited to, protection from retaliation in the form of an adverse employment action such as termination, compensation decreases, or poor work assignments and threats of physical harm. Any whistleblower who believes he/she is being retaliated against must contact the RCUOG executive director immediately. The right of a whistleblower for protection against retaliation does not include immunity of the whistleblower for any personal wrongdoing that is alleged and investigated.

### **Reporting**

All reports of illegal and dishonest activities will be promptly submitted to the RCUOG Executive Director who is responsible for investigating and coordinating corrective action. Employees with any questions regarding this policy should contact the RCUOG executive director.

## **22 SAFETY AND SECURITY**

RCUOG adheres to the University of Guam Policy Compliance for the Clery Act as part of the Higher Education Act which is posted on the UOG website, under the title RCUOG Campus Security and Fire Safety Policy, at [www.uog.edu/safety-security/documents.php](http://www.uog.edu/safety-security/documents.php). The policy includes the following:

- Policy Statement Addressing Timely Warnings
- Policy Statement Addressing Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures
- Policy Statement Addressing Preparation of Disclosure of Crime Statistics
- Policy Statement Addressing the Monitoring and Reporting of Criminal Offenses
- Policy Statement Addressing Voluntary Confidential Reporting
- Policy Statement Addressing Limited Voluntary Confidential Reporting
- Policy Statement Addressing Whistleblowers
- Policy Statement Addressing Missing Persons
- Policy Statement Addressing Campus Security and Access
- Policy Statement Addressing the Authority of Non-Sworn Public Safety Officers on Campus
- Policy Statement Addressing the Encouragement of Accurate and Prompt Crime Reporting - General Procedures for Reporting a Crime or Emergency
- Policy Statement Addressing Counselors
- Policy Statement Addressing Security Awareness and Crime Prevention Programs
- Policy Statement Addressing Alcoholic Beverages
- Policy Statement Addressing Substance Abuse Education
- Policy Statement Addressing Sex Offenses, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking
- Policy Statement Addressing Fire Safety Procedures, Statistics, Reports, and Documentation for Campus Residence Halls Facility

### **Access to Facilities**

As an employee, you have access to the facilities where you work. Access to your work location should be only for work purposes. For most employees, access is usually limited on nights and weekends.

### **Accidents**

If you become involved in an accident on the job, report it immediately to your supervisor. This report is the basis for correcting any safety hazards, complying with insurance requirements, and protecting employees from future injury. Should you have concerns about the safety of your work environment, discuss your concerns with your supervisor. Failure to report accidents may result in disciplinary action.

## **23 NO PETS AT WORK POLICY**

The Research Corporation of the University of Guam (RCUOG) is responsible for assuring the health and safety of all employees. In keeping with this objective, RCUOG does not permit employees to bring their household pets or any animal to work. Animals may pose a threat to an employee's physical safety, threat of infection, or may cause allergic reactions in other employees. Some employees may feel distracted or uncomfortable by the presence of animals. In addition, this policy prevents pets from soiling office spaces or green spaces around offices and seeks to prevent potential damage to company property.

An employee who requires the help of a service animal (defined by 28 CFR 36.104 as "any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability") will be permitted to bring a service animal to the office, provided that the animal's presence does not create a danger to others and does not impose an undue hardship upon the company. RCUOG shall not be liable for the loss of, or injury to, any service animal brought to the office.

The exception to this policy relates to grant projects wherein working animals participate in achieving grant outcomes, such as the Invasive Species Detector Dog Pilot Program. These working animals are near and sometimes in workspaces. However, their care and handling is documented and managed by professional dog handlers as part of a project supported by the Research Corporation.

## **24 CONTACT INFORMATION**

For further information contained within this document, you may contact:

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Email: [cmoore@triton.uog.edu](mailto:cmoore@triton.uog.edu)  
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