WORKERS’ COMPENSATION

BENEFITS EXPLANATION FORM

I, _____________________________, acknowledge that the following items have been explained to me and that I do understand each item.

1. §10-7-13 NMSA prohibits public employees from receiving monthly salary for leave time in combination with workers’ compensation benefits that exceeds 100% of the employee’s monthly base salary. ________________

2. The workers’ compensation benefit is computed at \(66 \frac{2}{3}\)\% of the employee’s gross weekly base salary **UP TO A SPECIFIED CAP** For most individuals, this figure is equal to the pay received in 5.3 hours of the normal 8 hour work day and is recorded as Workers’ Compensation Leave Without Pay (LWOP). The remaining 2.7 hours are charged to sick and/or annual leave or authorized LWOP. ________________

3. Unusual deductions such as private medical, dental, and legal insurance can continue as long as the remaining 2.7 hours (or more) per day are taken as sick and/or annual leave. If an employee runs out of sick and/or annual leave, the employee must bear the burden of paying his/her and the state’s share of such deductions, unless the employee applies, and is approved for, leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). ______

4. The first 5 work days (40 hours, 7 calendar days) that an employee loses time is **NOT** compensated until the employee has been off work for more than 28 calendar days. The first week is initially charged to sick and/or annual leave or authorized LWOP. ________________

5. After 28 calendar days off work, the first week’s benefit check is paid. At this time, unless the employee was on LWOP, or in other words, did not have or use any sick or annual leave for that first 40 hours, the first week’s benefit check will constitute an overpayment and violates §10-7-13 NMSA. Therefore, the employee must reimburse the agency for the amount of overpayment received. In return, the agency must reinstate the applicable amount of sick and/or annual leave used during the first week. ________________

6. The amount of overpayment will be computed by the agency upon receipt of the first week’s check. Should the check be delivered **DIRECTLY** to the employee, it is the employee’s responsibility to ensure proper procedures are followed. ________________
7. The responsibility for properly coding time sheets rests with the immediate supervisor. The injured employee must also ensure that time sheets are properly and accurately prepared. 

(initials)

8. Any LWOP time in excess of 30 days, **INCLUDING THAT USED FOR WORKERS’ COMPENSATION PURPOSES**, does not allow an individual to accrue service time towards retirement, unless the employee applies, and is approved for FMLA. All other LWOP time must be made up by actual service (productive) time. 

(initials)

Print name of injured employee

Signature of injured employee

Date

WITNESS:

Name

Date