### D.02.05.07 (Procedure) Flexible Work Schedules

Responsible Department: Talent, Organization & Strategic Innovation

Based on Board Policy: D.02.05 - Hiring, Authority, Status, Assignments and Duties

Approved: 8-23-22 Amended: 10-9-25

#### General

Alamo Colleges District is committed to meeting the evolving needs of students. Flexible work schedules are provided at the sole discretion of the College District. These arrangements allow the College District to fully meet the needs of those we serve while providing employees with increased work schedule flexibility.

In most instances the work of teaching, serving students and supporting the education mission is best served by employees who are physically present in the workplace to collaborate with other employees, hold office hours, engage in service to the colleges and participate in ongoing activities on campus and in the workplace as an actively engaged member of the workforce of the College District.

Flexible work schedule arrangements must conform to Policy D.02.06 Telecommuting/Telework and provisions of Texas Senate Bill 2615 (89R) "SB2615", codified as Texas Education Code §51.992 and outlined in Procedure D.2.6.2 State Restrictions on Telework for Higher Education Employees.

#### Flexible Work Schedule Criteria

Flexible work schedules will be considered where schedule flexibility is shown to accomplish the work required while meeting the **Flexible Schedule Criteria**:

#### Flexible Schedule Criteria

- The position involves measurable or quantifiable work product, and the job functions can be performed off-site without diminishing the quality of the work or disrupting the productivity of a unit;
- The work permits deadlines to be met from an off-site location;
- An appropriate off-site location is available for the position;
- There is an ability to keep office hours for meetings, student contact and other functions of the job by use of available technology instead of physical presence in the workplace;
- The schedule still fully serves the needs of students, prospective students, and the community;
- The schedule still meets all needs and requirements for onsite service, instruction, and operations; and.
- provides the course modality published in the schedule; and,
- The schedule provides full coverage for department and intra-department operations.

Additional **Department-Specific Flexible Schedule Criteria** may be established by the department head in conjunction with their administrator/administrative leadership team. The extent to which flexible schedule criteria are met or not met is determined by the department head and their administrative leadership.

Flexible work schedules are not appropriate for every employee or position and <u>are not a universal employee</u> <u>benefit</u>. Administrators may designate certain departments, jobs, and time-periods that may/or may not be available or eligible for flexible work schedules.

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Flexible work schedules may be canceled at any time and for any reason by the department head, administrator or administrative leadership team. An employee wishing to change or cancel a flexible work arrangement must obtain the written approval of their department head.

#### **Flexible Work Schedule Options**

Several alternative work schedule options exist:

## A. Summer Work Week Options –

Summer Work-Week Options will be determined on a campus-by-campus basis by the responsible President, Vice Chancellor or the Chancellor based on the needs of those served. During the designated summer period, if authorized by the campus administrator, full-time employees will opt to work, either:

- 10-hour workdays, on Monday through Thursday of each week, onsite; or,
- 8-hour workdays, on Monday through Friday of each week, with: Monday through Thursday onsite; and, Friday as a remote-work day.

The summer weeks during which this option will be available are set annually by the College District in accordance with D.10.02. Remote Hybrid Workdays (as described herein) may be approved in conjunction with a Summer Work Week Option by the department head and ther responsible administrator.

**B.** Remote Hybrid Workdays – in departments/positions where remote-work is authorized and telecommuting/telework is permissible under the provisions of D.2.6, D.2.6.1 D.2.6.2 and the Texas Education Code §51.992, up to one (1) day per week may be <u>scheduled</u> by the department head for the employee as a remote-work day.

An employee authorized to work Remote Hybrid Workdays will work at offsite locations that have been pre-approved by their department head.

An employee authorized to work Remote Hybrid Workdays will use computer hardware issued by ACD and are responsible for providing their own wi-fi connections. Wi-fi connections must be adequate to properly perform the work. An employee working remote is responsible for properly caring for all ACD equipment issued and transporting the equipment to/from the remote work location. Equipment issued for off-site work must be promptly transported back to campus when requested for purposes such as inventory or maintenance. All equipment issued must be promptly returned when an employee's employment or remote work authorization ends.

Authorized remote work time requires the employee to be fully engaged in their work, connected with co-workers and students, and available and reachable by phone, for all of the authorized remote hours. Remote work is not intended to allow an employee to perform non-job-related responsibilities during authorized remote work hours. Significant non-work-

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related demands/distractions in the remote environment would be cause for discontinuation of remote work authorization.

- C. Flexible Start-times employees work eight or ten hours per workday as assigned. The supervisor may authorize alternate start and end times for an employee to help balance work and family/personal demands within the Flexible Schedule Criteria provided herein when the needs of students and the department, and scheduling fairness are still fully met.
- **D. Job-sharing** —two part-time employees may be assigned to partner to fulfill the requirements of one full-time job, equivalent to one full-time employee. This option must ensure the continuity of the work being done at the same workstation, with two individuals working as a team to accomplish the duties of the shared full-time position.

# **Approval of Flexible Work Schedule Options**

Department heads are responsible for determining and adjusting which Flexible Work Schedule Options are workable within the department and within the campus-wide scheduling parameters set by the President or Vice Chancellor. This will include determining, on an ongoing basis, whether the entire department, specific functions, or employees in a specific job must/can work an alternative schedule. Departments may exclude certain hours, days of the week and/or times of the year from flexible work schedule options as required to meet the needs of students, department on-site staffing requirements, and other operational reasons that may arise.

To determine whether an individual employee's request to participate in an alternative work schedule is appropriate, the department head must assess the impact and outcomes in terms of service to students; support to customer departments; efficiency; work quality; staffing levels; and absenteeism. Individual flexible schedule arrangements must be in the best interest of the College District, students, the community served and the employee.

Upon approval of a flexible work schedule, a trial-period of up to six months, with 90-day checkpoints, will be established to assess the impact and effectiveness of the arrangement. After the trial period, successful flexible work arrangements will be reviewed at least annually to verify continued success.

# **Employee Eligibility**

In order for a flexible work schedule to be considered for approval, the employee must have:

- Successfully completed entry probation and be fully trained to perform the job on a remote basis without extra supervision; and,
- have a satisfactory record of attendance; and,
- meet all performance expectations of the assigned job and consistently demonstrate the ability to complete tasks and assignments on a timely basis

The nature of the employee's work and job responsibilities must be conducive to a flexible work arrangement without causing significant disruption to performance and/or service delivery.