

# SYNOPSIS OF COUNTY BENEFITS

## DEPUTY SHERIFF SERGEANTS UNIT (LELS Local #215)

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### PROBATIONARY PERIOD

All newly hired or rehired employees will be subject to a twelve-month (12) probationary period. Promoted employees shall be subject to a six month (6) probationary period.

### COMPENSATION

Starting salaries are determined by hiring department head in accordance with County policy. Annual general increases and progression through salary range are based on union contract language.

### SHIFTS DIFFERENTIAL

Employees assigned to certain work shifts shall receive the appropriate shift differential pay.

### PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

When required, Washington County withholds the following mandatory deductions: Social Security, Medicare, Minnesota State and Federal income taxes.

### PAY DATES

New employees will normally receive their first payroll within 30 days of their date of hire. Paydays thereafter are processed bi-weekly to the employee's direct deposit account.

### HOLIDAYS

The County will observe the following eleven holidays:

New Year's Day	President's Day	Memorial Day
Independence Day	Labor Day	Veterans' Day
Thanksgiving Day	Day after Thanksgiving	Christmas Day
Christmas Eve Day		

### PTO – PAID TIME OFF PLAN

<u>YEARS OF SERVICE</u>	<u>ANNUAL ACCRUAL</u>
Hired on or after January 1, 2019	160 hours/20 days
Hired on or prior to December 31, 2018: Less than 5 years of service	168 hours/21 days
Completed 5 years but less than 10	192 hours/24 days
Completed 10 years but less than 15	216 hours/27 days
Completed 15 years but less than 20	240 hours/30 days
Completed 20 years of service	288 hours/36 days

A part-time employee accrues on pro-rated basis.

### PTO CASH OUT

Employees may elect to cash out up to 90 hours of PTO annually, subject to IRS regulations and in accordance with County policy.

Click [here](#) to access your Labor Contract for additional information.

## INSURANCE BENEFITS PROGRAM

The County's Cafeteria Benefit Plan gives employees an opportunity to design a benefit package that fits their personal needs and goals. Employees whose FTE is .50 or greater are eligible to participate in all insurance benefits. Some benefits have been negotiated via the collective bargaining agreement:

- Basic life in the amount of 1X's annual earnings plus \$10,000 (\$200,000 max) is provided at no cost to the employee.
- Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) coverage in the amount of 1X's annual earnings plus \$10,000 (\$200,000 max) is provided at no cost to the employee.
- Long Term Disability (LTD) at a 60% income replacement level to a \$2,500 per month maximum benefits is provided at no cost to the employee.

Please refer to the Design your Benefits booklet for additional information regarding your benefit offerings, available at WashNet under Human Resources/Benefits or click *here*.

## COUNTY-PROVIDED FLEX CREDITS

The County provides \$75.00 per month toward the purchase of benefits to employees whose full-time equivalency is .50 FTE or above.

## RETIREMENT PROGRAMS

PERA: Public Employee Retirement Association

Participation in PERA is mandatory, automatic and contributions are based on your position and the associated plan.

<u>PERA PLAN</u>	<u>COUNTY CONTRIBUTION</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION</u>
Police /Fire	17.7% of salary	11.80% of salary

## SECTION 457(b) DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

Washington County offers two §457(b) voluntary deferred compensation plans through payroll deductions on a pre-tax and/or post-tax basis: MNDCP and Nationwide.

## POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH CARE SAVINGS PLAN (HCSP)

Participation in the HCSP is required. The HCSP is an employer-sponsored program that allows employees to save money, tax-free, to use upon termination of employment to pay for eligible health care expenses. Assets in the account will accumulate tax-free, and since payouts are used for approved health care expenses, they will remain tax free. This program is offered through the Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS).

Employees will contribute to their individual HCSPs as follows:

- 3% of employee's gross wage per pay period
- PTO hours over 460 as of December 1<sup>st</sup>
- All severance-eligible employees shall have their sick leave severance benefits, when available, deposited in to their individual HCSP.
- All termination-eligible employees shall have their PTO leave termination benefits, when available, deposited in to their individual HCSP.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS (Federal Direct Loan) FOR INCOME-DRIVEN REPAYMENT PLANS**

Washington County qualifies as a “public service organization” to help you qualify for this partial student loan forgiveness program. [www.StudentAid.gov/publicservice](http://www.StudentAid.gov/publicservice).

## **LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS**

Washington County has partnered with the following to offer tuition discounts for county employees for select programs and professional development opportunities:

- Bethel University - To learn more about Bethel admissions and apply, <https://www.bethel.edu/admissions/>
- Concordia University – To learn more about the accelerated cohort-driven programs eligible for this scholarship.  
[https://info.online.csp.edu/partnerships/?utm\\_source=ELSEvent&utm\\_medium=intranet&utm\\_campaign=Washington%20County&utm\\_term=ltw&utm\\_content=MBA](https://info.online.csp.edu/partnerships/?utm_source=ELSEvent&utm_medium=intranet&utm_campaign=Washington%20County&utm_term=ltw&utm_content=MBA)
- Hamline University - For more information on Hamline University Learning Partner Benefits visit <http://www.hamline.edu/business/mpa/scholarships/learning-partner>
- St. Catherine University - For more information on St. Catherine University Partner Benefits visit <https://www.stkate.edu/admission-and-aid/corporate-partner-scholarships>
- St. Mary’s University - For more information on St. Mary’s University Partner Benefits visit <https://www.smumn.edu/admission>

Benefit questions: Contact Benefits via e-mail at [HRbenefits@co.washington.mn.us](mailto:HRbenefits@co.washington.mn.us) or at 651-430-6079. For all other questions please contact Human Resources at 651-430-6081.

*All new employees meet with a Human Resources staff member during their first day of employment and are scheduled to attend New Employee Orientation within the first two (2) months of employment.*

*Statements in this synopsis are not to be considered binding upon the County except when they are restatements of terms and conditions of employment as contained in labor agreements. This synopsis may be revised from time to time as Washington County deems appropriate without prior notice. **This synopsis of County Benefits does not constitute a contract. Thank you for choosing Washington County as a great place to work today...and tomorrow***

