

10.6 QUARANTINE LEAVE

(for Fire Fighters, Peace Officers, Detention Officers, and Emergency Medical Technicians)

The following policy has been adopted to comply with Texas State House Bill 2073. It is in reference to paid quarantine leave for Austin County employees that function in the roll of one of the following; Fire Fighters, Peace Officers, Detention Officers, and Emergency Medical Technicians.

Definitions of Roles

Fire Fighter – is a paid employee of Austin County who holds a position that requires substantial knowledge of firefighting, has met the requirements for certification by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection under Chapter 419, Texas Government code; and performs a function listed in Section 143.003(4)(A).

Peace Officer – is an individual described by Article 2.12, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, who is elected for, employed by, or appointed by a political subdivision.

Detention Officer – is an individual appointed or employed by a political subdivision as a county jailer or other individual responsible for the care and custody of individuals incarcerated in a county of municipal jail.

Emergency Medical Technician – is an individual who is certified as an emergency medical technician under Chapter 773, Texas Health and Safety Code; and employed by a political subdivision.

Health Authority – has the meaning assigned by Section 121.021 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

Austin County employees whose position requires the employee to operate in the capacity of one or more of the following positions; Fire Fighter, Peace Officer, Detention Officer, or an Emergency Medical Technician, that are required to quarantine as ordered by their supervisor or political subdivision's health authority following a possible, or known exposure to a communicable disease, while on duty, are eligible to receive the following:

- 1) All employment benefits and compensation, including leave accrual, pension benefits, and health benefit plan benefits for the duration of the leave.
- 2) Reimbursement for reasonable costs related to the quarantine, including lodging, medical, and transportation.

- 3) The employee's sick leave balance, vacation leave balance, holiday leave balance, or other paid leave balance will not be reduced in connection with paid quarantine leave.