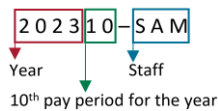


Payroll Definitions and Important Notes

Pay Period: A pay period is a specific length of time during which employees receive wages for the work they have performed. The length of a pay period at McMaster is defined as 14 days, starting from Sunday, and ending on the Saturday of the following week.

Pay Period ID: Pay Period ID identifies the name of pay period within the calendar year within the Human Resources (Mosaic) system. For example, “202310-SAM” means the 10th pay period in the year 2023, for Staff. Whereas 202310-FAM means the 10th pay period in the year 2023 for Faculty and Affiliates.



Pay Deposit Date: A pay deposit date is the regularly scheduled bi-weekly date on which employees receive wages for the work they have performed during the pay period. McMaster’s pay deposit dates occur on Fridays and are on alternating weeks for staff and faculty. If a statutory holiday or bank holiday falls on a Friday, the pay deposit date will be on Thursday. Pay statements are available to be viewed in the Human Resources (Mosaic) system the Thursday prior to the scheduled pay deposit date.

Human Resources (HR) Transactions: HR transactions are any updates or changes to an employee’s life-cycle data, including new hires, terminations, schedule changes, contract extensions, leaves of absence, personal information, position changes, benefit updates, compensation adjustments, and any other changes that impact an employee’s paycheque.

Examples of HR Transactions include New Hire packages, final Leave of Absences packages from HR personnel, Special Premium Payment (SPP) forms, HR eForms (contract extensions, retirements, terminations, schedule changes, compensation adjustments) and the HR Event Form.

Human Resources (HR) Transaction Deadline: This is the deadline for HR transactions to be received by HR Operations with all necessary department and finance approvals, via HR eForm or email submission to hr.mcmaster@mcmaster.ca (Jira). Requests must be **complete, accurate and fully approved** by the HR Transaction Deadline. If requests are incomplete, inaccurate or approvals are still pending after the deadline, the request may not be processed within the pay period and can cause delays to the employee’s paycheque.

Time Reporting/Absence Entry & Approval Deadline: This is the deadline for when the department administrator or reporting supervisor or manager must have entered and approved timesheets or absences for all individuals in the Human Resources (Mosaic) system. If the time or absence is not approved by the deadline, the submission will be paid on the next pay period. **Please note:** absences for the current pay period approved after the absence approval deadline may result in a loss of pay for the employee. Please refrain from approving absences until after the Pay Deposit Date. **Employees should check with department administrators as the department may have earlier cut off dates than those noted by HR.*

Retroactive request: This is a request submitted with an effective date prior to the current pay period. The transaction will be processed within the pay period that it is submitted and approved in. Impacts to an employee’s paycheque because of the retroactive request (e.g., overpayments) will be processed within the defined Service Level Agreement (SLA) period.

Fiscal Period: Month that the pay will be recorded in the general ledger. The Fiscal Period represents one month of time within the Fiscal Year. The University’s Fiscal Year is May 1st to April 30th, meaning that May is Fiscal Period 1 and April is Fiscal Period 12.