I. Title

Pay for On-Call Employees

II. Policy

To ensure adequate coverage, UTMB pays on-call compensation to exempt and non-exempt classified employees in specific departments and job titles that have been designated as authorized on-call positions. These employees must be available to respond from a remote location or by returning to the worksite when needed by the department.

The University of Texas Medical Branch, in compliance with applicable federal laws and regulations, strives to maintain an environment free from discrimination against individuals on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, or veteran status.

III. Guidelines

Employee must be able to respond to service needs or to be able to address the necessary work from home within a defined period of time as predetermined by the department.

While on-call, an employee is paid an hourly on-call rate. On-call payment will be based on the established institutional rate.

As soon as an employee reports to work or begins work from home, he/she will go “on the clock” at his/her regular rate of pay, and on-call pay will be suspended until the employee is off the clock.

Applicable overtime or compensatory time guidelines apply if the weekly total number of hours worked exceeds 40 hours.

IV. Procedures

If an employee is scheduled to be on-call following the end of a regularly scheduled shift, the on-call period will not begin until the employee has completed all the shift assignments, even if that extends beyond the scheduled end time for that shift, and leaves the premises.

Employees called to work during a scheduled on-call period will be paid for at least two (2) hours of work, though the actual time worked may be less. Regardless of the number of times the employee is called during the scheduled on-call period, a total of two (2) hours worked will be recorded if the total of the actual time worked is less than or equal to two (2) hours.

If the actual time worked is greater than two (2) hours, the time worked will be recorded as regular time on the timesheet, and on-call pay will be suspended until the employee is off the clock. If after working, the employee is still within the on-call period, he/she will be paid the hourly on-call rate
for the duration of the on-call period.

V. Establishing a Position as On-Call Eligible
For a position to be on-call eligible, a department must obtain written approval from the area Vice President or designee and Human Resources. On-call pay is only authorized based on market needs.

Implementation of on-call payments must be administratively coordinated with Human Resources and Finance/Payroll Services.

VI. Related UTMB Policies and Procedures
IHOP - 03.04.05 - Overtime
IHOP - 03.04.03 - State Compensatory Time
IHOP – 03.04.08 – Compensation Practices for Non-Exempt Employees

VII. Dates Approved or Amended

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VIII. Contact Information
Human Resources – Employee Relations
(409) 772-8696