

### **CENTRAL MARIN SANITATION AGENCY**



# **Benefits Reference Guide**

**AN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS OVERVIEW** 



### **Benefits Reference Guide**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

CMSA offers a wide range of benefits to employees, including comprehensive healthcare options, a retirement plan, retirement savings plans, post-employment health benefits, a pretax flexible spending plan, and various perks such as subsidies for travelling to work on public or green transit, a computer purchase incentive program, and reimbursements for professional development and certifications.

The Agency also offers paid holidays, sick leave, and vacation time, along with overtime pay for non-exempt employees, and annual cost-of-living adjustments.

Employees are encouraged to review this guide that highlights each of the benefits and take advantage of them. Please note that for each benefit, references are provided for the applicable Agency policy or source where more detailed information can be found.

Of course, Administrative personnel are happy to help with any questions.





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### CMSA BENEFITS REFERENCE GUIDE HEALTH AND WELLNESS

#### **HEALTHCARE**

The Agency fully pays health insurance through **CalPERS** for employee and eligible dependents (up to the current Kaiser Bay Area family rate). If you are single or single+1, you can choose any health plan without paying additional, as long as it is equal to or less than the Kaiser Bay Area family rate.

An employee who chooses to waive Agency offered medical coverage and provides written documentation indicating they receive coverage under the medical plan of a spouse or domestic partner, may elect to receive a monthly "cash-back" benefit of \$500.



Qualifying life event changes can be made at any time during the year, and open enrollment is held every year around October.

Your health plan provider also provides a website where you can access information on your healthcare. For more information, register and log on to your myCalPERS site: my.calpers.ca.gov

#### POST-EMPLOYMENT HEALTH PLAN



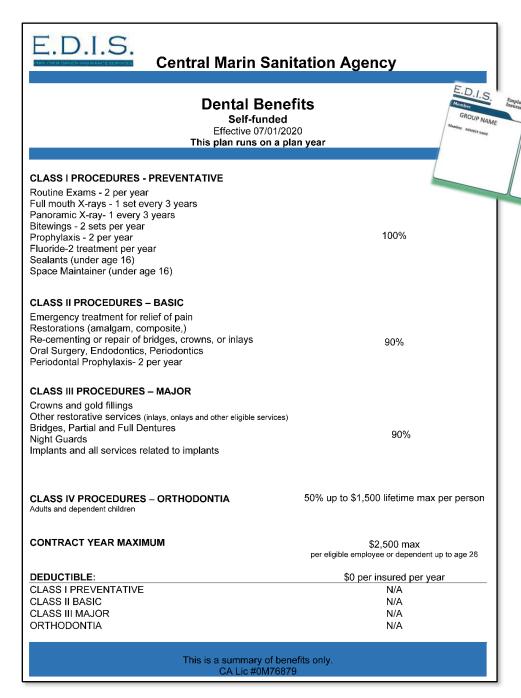
Upon hire, CalPERS PEPRA employees are automatically enrolled In Nationwide's PEHP (Post Employment Health Plan). CMSA contributes one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the employee's base salary into the account at the end of each pay period, and provides the employee with a detailed plan summary at the time of enrollment. Contributions are employer-only, with no co-pay requirements for employees.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #307 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 13

#### **DENTAL INSURANCE**

CMSA has contracted with E.D.I.S., a third-party administrator, to manage Central Marin Sanitation Agency's self-insured dental benefits.



DENTAL

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** 

Personnel Policy #307 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 13

#### **VSP VISION CARE**

The Agency contracts with VSP for employee vision benefits, and pays the full cost of the plan premium for the employee and qualified family members. Employees can set up a user-name and password on the VSP site: <a href="https://www.vsp.com">www.vsp.com</a>



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #307 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 13

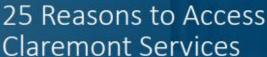
#### **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The Agency provides a free Employee Assistance Program (EAP) which is administered by Claremont. Their staff provides advice and consultation on a wide variety of topics. Confidentially! They are available to call at the number listed here:



Helping you be your best.





- It's FREE! No money comes out of your paycheck.
- It's confidential- No one will know that you accessed Claremont services unless you tell them.
- Accessing Claremont is EASY: No forms, no co-pays, no deductibles.
- Be proactive about your life!
- You get free counseling sessions with a licensed clinician in private practice.
- Counseling is available for individuals, couples and families.
- Video Counseling. See and speak with a counselor from the privacy of your home.
- Receive 24/7 emotional support from an AI Chatbot. Call 650-825-9634, text "Hi" to Tess and enter "Claremont" as your company name.
- Interest in Online Support Groups? Claremont offers a range of confidential, specialized sessions.
- FREE legal consultations!
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- You can do a Simple Will for FREE.
- FREE financial consultations!
- Concerned about your credit report information or score? Schedule a consultation to resolve any issues.
- Get your life organized!
- Looking for child care services? Claremont will generate a customized report for you, with a listing of appropriate services and other helpful written information.
- Same with elder care services-Claremont provides nationwide referrals and customized reports.
- Need help choosing a public or private school for your child? Claremont can help you do the research.
- Feel overwhelmed by the college search process? Claremont can help you research undergraduate and graduate programs, including financial aid.
- Claremont provides nationwide referrals for adoption attorneys, agencies, infertility specialists, and support groups.



- Do you care for a pet? Claremont offers referrals for pet services such as vets, groomers, boarders, animal hospitals and pet sitters.
- Looking for a low or no cost community resource? Claremont provides referrals to 12-step meetings, inpatient and outpatient treatment facilities, and more. Just call.
- Be prepared for whatever comes up.
- Manage your stress-at work and at home.
- Enhance your resilience with positive psychology tools found at positivitycenter.org.
- Enjoy over 120 webinars on Claremont Personal Advantage.



Call toll-free, 24/7 800-834-3773 claremonteap.com

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call the 800 number or see Administration.

#### **DISABILITY INSURANCE**

Disability is an illness or injury, either physical or mental, which prevents customary work, and includes elective surgery, pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions. Disability Insurance (DI) is a component of the State Disability Insurance (SDI) program, designed to partially replace wages lost due to a non-work-related disability. SDI contributions are paid by California workers covered by the SDI program, and the program is administered through the Employment Development Department.





#### PREGNANT EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

The Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), enforced by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), contains provisions relating to pregnancy leave including certain leave and transfer protections and guarantees provided under the FEHA and the California Family Rights Act (CFRA).



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Ask Administration for informational brochures, and visit <a href="https://www.edd.ca.gov/disability/">https://www.edd.ca.gov/disability/</a>

#### **CALPERS RETIREMENT**

CMSA offers a comprehensive retirement benefits package to all eligible Agency employees, through the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS).

Employees planning to retire from the Agency have the opportunity to attend a Retirement Planning Workshop offered by CalPERS. The Agency suggests that retiring employees schedule their attendance at this workshop at least three months in advance of their intended retirement date.

It is requested that employees planning to retire from Agency service give both the Agency and CalPERS at least ninety (90) calendar days' written notice prior to the date of intent to retire.



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 14.

#### SICK LEAVE INCENTIVE PROGRAM



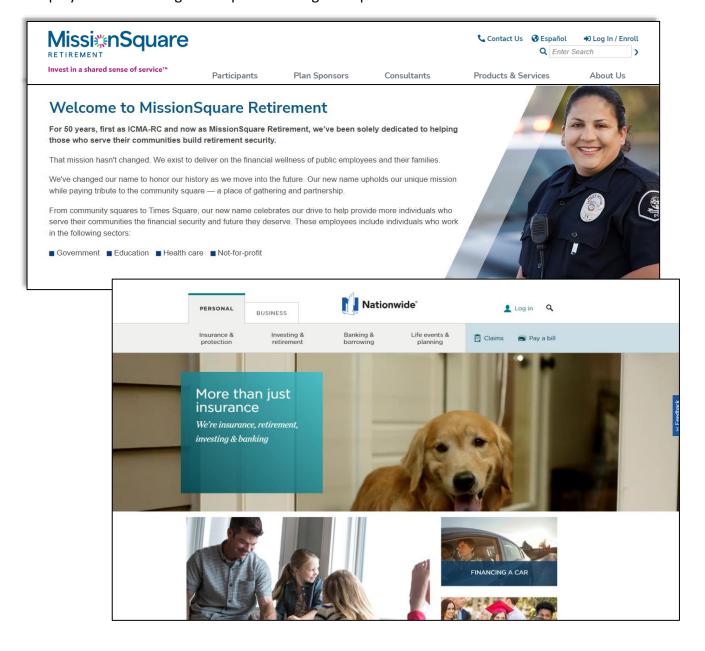
The Agency provides all employees retiring from the Agency credit for all unused or non-cashed-out sick leave toward years of service, a benefit option that the Agency has contracted with CalPERS to provide. An employee who has at least the equivalent of ten years of Agency service will be eligible to receive one-half of his/her accrued sick leave, up to 500 hours, as cash upon retirement from Agency service.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 18.

#### **RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLANS**

For those employees wishing to open a pre-tax retirement savings account, there is a choice of two 457 plans, one through MissionSquare (formerly ICMA-RC) and one through Nationwide. Also available is a 401(a) plan through Nationwide, which must be set up within the first thirty days of employment. They all offer an automatic pre-tax deduction from your paycheck and are voluntary plans. Per a labor agreement reopener, discussions regarding an Agency match for employees contributing to 457 plans will begin in April 2023.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Information is available from Administration.

#### **NAVIA FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT**

CMSA offers each employee the option to enroll in the Navia Flexible Spending Account, an approved IRS Section 125 Reimbursement Account for Health and Dependent Care. Employee participation is voluntary and each account is funded with employee payroll contributions as a pre-tax deduction. The annual open enrollment period is usually in the fall. When accessing the NAVIA site, use CMSA's reference code "CEA".



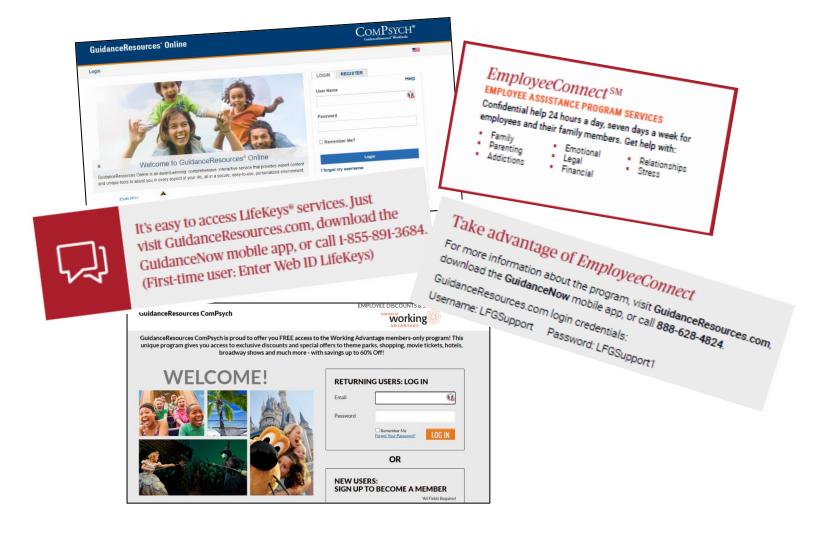
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #307 and see Administration to enroll.

#### LINCOLN FINANCIAL LIFE

All staff members are enrolled in Lincoln Financial's Life Insurance, Accidental Death & Dismemberment, and Long-term Disability programs while employed at CMSA.

Additionally, Lincoln Financial offers perks that are available to staff free of charge. The *Employee Connect* and *LifeKeys* programs offer resources on such topics as wellness, relationships, financial, home and auto, legal, and more. The *Travel Connect* program offers medical emergency help and transportation, ID recovery assistance, recovery of lost or stolen items, and language translation services. Flyers with information on how to access these programs, are available from Administration.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION** 

Personnel Policy #307 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 13.

#### **CARPOOL / ALTERNATIVE COMMUTE INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

Employees who live in the same area can commute together using a CMSA vehicle or their own vehicle. Employees receive a non-cash, taxable benefit of \$3 per day when using a CMSA vehicle, or a stipend of \$5 per day if using their own vehicle. A minimum of three employees are required for use of an Agency vehicle, and two are required for a personal vehicle.

Fill out the form found here:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Administrative Policy #55

# CMSA BENEFITS REFERENCE GUIDE OTHER BENEFITS

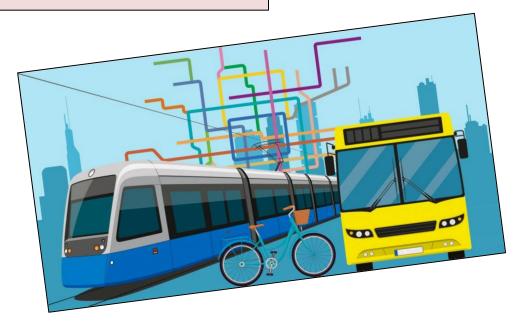
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# COMMUTER CASH REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

To encourage the use of green transportation alternatives, employees who take public transportation to work can set aside pre-tax dollars from their paycheck, and then use those dollars to pay the commuting costs. Use the form below to enroll, and receipts or statements are required.

Fill out the form found here:

<u>S:\Lib - Forms and Templates\STAFF</u> <u>FORMS</u>



FOR MORE INFORMATION

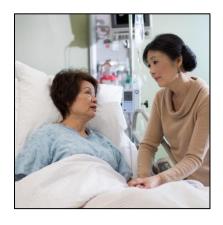
Administrative Policy #56

#### **CATASTROPHIC LEAVE**

Employees can donate a portion of their accrued vacation, sick leave, floating holiday, and/or administrative leave to another employee when the other employee, or a member of the employee's immediate family, has suffered a catastrophic illness or injury.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #310



#### **COMPUTER PURCHASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**



This program assists employees in the development of computer skills by providing an economic incentive to purchase a home computer, software, and accessories. The assistance is in the form of an interest-free loan that is paid back within two years, through a payroll deduction. The minimum loan amount is \$250, the maximum is \$1,750, and only one loan is allowed every two years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Administrative Policy #54

#### **COST SAVINGS AWARD PROGRAM**

This incentive program encourages and supports Agency employees' efforts in identifying and implementing ways to continuously improve CMSA operations and business practices. The Agency supports this creativity and innovation by sharing a portion of the proven savings with the employees(s) who developed the cost saving proposal. Awards for successful proposals are based on the verified cost savings, and are up to \$10,000 for individual and team efforts.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION** 

Administrative Policy #8

#### **EMPLOYEE AWARD RECOGNITION**

The CMSA Board recognizes Agency employees when they receive industry-related awards for exceptional individual or organizational accomplishments. Monetary awards are given to employees for the *National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) - Peak Performance Award*, the *California Water Environment Association (CWEA) - Regional and State Awards*, and the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) - Financial Reporting and Budgeting award.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Administrative Policy 58 – Employee Award Recognition

#### **EMPLOYEE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

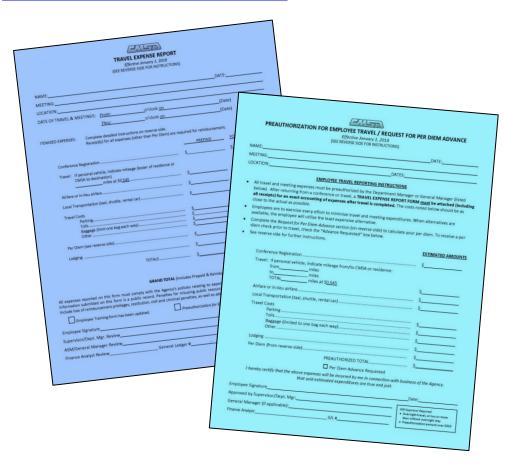
CMSA encourages and supports training and professional development for employees to improve their knowledge, skills, and abilities for on-the-job performance and professional growth. Workappropriate classes, training events, conferences, and webinars are collaboratively reviewed with the employee and his/her supervisor.



Once a training program is selected, use the light blue "Pre-Authorization for Employee Travel" form to get approval for your training expenses, then when you return, use the dark blue "Travel Expense Report" to reconcile your expenses, and receive any reimbursements.

Fill out the form found here:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Administrative Policy #63, Personnel Policies #305-306, Financial Policy #541

#### **COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT**

CMSA provides a Cost-of- Living adjustment (COLA) for each Agency classification on July 1<sup>st</sup>, which is based on the Agency's MoU with SEIU 1021.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 12.

#### **HOLIDAYS**

The Agency observes the following 10 paid holidays, plus three paid floating holidays.

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- President's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day

- Labor Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Day



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #301 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 16.

### CMSA BENEFITS REFERENCE GUIDE OTHER BENEFITS

#### **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

#### **Jury Duty**

Employees receive their regular rate of pay for hours served, during regularly scheduled hours, and overtime if beyond the regularly scheduled workday. Any jury fees, excluding mileage, received by an employee must be remitted to the Agency.



#### **Military Leaves of Absence**

The provisions of the Military and Veterans Code of the State of California and applicable federal law govern military leave for the Agency.

#### **Maternity/Baby Bonding Leave**

The provisions for Maternity/Baby Bonding Leave are granted in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

#### **Bereavement Leave**

In the event of a death in the immediate family of an employee, the employee receives a paid leave of absence for up to three (3) working days per occasion. Immediate family members are parent, step-parent, father/mother in-law, brother, sister, step-brother/sister, brother/sister in-law, child, step-child, grandparent, spouse, uncle, aunt, member of household or legal guardian, and registered domestic partner.

#### **Leave of Absence**

A regular or probationary employee may request that the General Manager grant a Leave of Absence pursuant to Personnel Policy # 304.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #304 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 19.

#### **MEAL ALLOWANCE**

A meal allowance is provided for employees who are required by their supervisor to work overtime. An employee can receive a meal allowance for each four hours of overtime worked, based on the current Agency lunch per diem amount.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION** 

MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 15.

### CMSA BENEFITS REFERENCE GUIDE OTHER BENEFITS

#### **OVERTIME**

Overtime is compensated at one and one-half (1  $\frac{1}{2}$ ) times the straight-time hourly wage rate or in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, and is by  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour increments. Overtime pay can be accrued (banked) in lieu of pay, but must be requested in advance of working overtime. The maximum that can be accrued is 40 hours. An employee may receive cash upon request for compensatory time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #206 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 11.

#### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

The Agency provides all protective clothing determined by management to be necessary for employees to perform their jobs. All employees in the Maintenance, Operations, and Technical Services Departments are provided clothing and shoes. Safety glasses and ear protection are also provided.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION** 

MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 15.

#### **REIMBURSEMENT FOR CERTIFICATION / LICENSES**



With prior approval of the General Manager, fees for examinations, certificates and certificate renewal in the wastewater field will be reimbursed for the passed exam.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #306 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 27.

### CMSA BENEFITS REFERENCE GUIDE OTHER BENEFITS

#### **SICK LEAVE**

Regular full-time employees accrue sick leave at the rate of eight hours per month. Sick leave is allowed only in the case of necessity due to actual sickness, disability, or a specific permitted use as listed below:

- Personal illness or injury or pregnancy
- Medical and dental appointments during working hours (must be authorized by your Supervisor or Manager)
- Absence due to guarantine as imposed by health authorities
- Attending to the illness of a member of the immediate family; limited to a maximum of 48 working hours during each calendar year
- Illness while on paid vacation
- Personal emergencies, not to exceed 16 working hours during any calendar year
- An absence due to an act of God which prohibits an employee from traveling to the employee's work location

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #303 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 18.



# CMSA BENEFITS REFERENCE GUIDE OTHER BENEFITS

#### **VACATION**

The Agency encourages employees to annually take their vacation leave. Vacation hours are accrued based on the formula shown below.

Employees can accrue up to 320 hours. Once the maximum has been reached, no additional vacation leave time will be accrued until the balance drops below the maximum.



#### **Accrual Formula**

Years of Service	Max Possible Annual Accrual (hours)	Per Pay Period Accrual (hours)
0 – 3 years	80 hours	3.077 hours
4 – 7 years	120 hours	4.615 hours
8 years and up	160 hours	6.154 hours
12 years and up	180 hours	6.923 hours
16 years and up	200 hours	7.692 hours

Once per calendar year, due to a unique or special circumstance, an employee may request to sell up to one week of vacation time. The General Manager will review the request and circumstances.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Personnel Policy #302 and MoU with SEIU 1021, Section 17.