

# Corporate Human Resources **Standard**

**TITLE: Vacation and Sick Time**  
**EFFECTIVE DATE: May 15, 2024**

**VERSION: 6**

## Vacation and Sick Time

### Purpose

The purpose of this Vacation and Sick Time Standard (Standard) is to create a uniform vacation and sick time benefit and method of tracking vacation and sick time for all employees in Global Grade 11 and below throughout the United States.

### Scope and Eligibility

This standard applies to regular full-time and part-time Stryker employees working in the United States except for Direct Sales employees (as defined below), Sales Managers (as defined below), and employees at Global Grade 12 and above, and supersedes all previous vacation policies for any divisions or locations.

Direct Sales employees, Sales Managers, and employees at Global grade 12 and above are ineligible for the benefits outlined in this standard unless otherwise stated herein, as they do not accrue vacation time under this policy. Direct Sales employees, Sales Managers, and employees in Global Grade 12 and above work directly with their managers when they want to use vacation time and will schedule directly with their manager when requesting it. When transitioning into a Direct Sales, Sales Manager, or Global Grade 12 or above role, employees must continue requesting vacation through Stryker systems until existing balances have been fully exhausted.

### Key terms

**Direct Sales Employee.** Employees will be considered “direct sales” employees for purposes of this policy if they have been classified as “direct sales” by their division and coded in Stryker’s HR System as HR Function = Sales Direct (same designation as Sales 401(k)). The policy does not change who each division considers a “direct sales” employee.

**Sales Manager.** Sales employees who manage Direct Sales Employees, either directly or indirectly.

**Employee.** Stryker U.S. full-time and part-time employees to whom this Standard applies; i.e., all U.S. employees except for Direct Sales Employees and employees at Global Grade 12 and above.

**Vacation Balance.** The amount of vacation time that an Employee has accrued and has available to them for use with his or her manager’s approval.

**Accrual Cap.** The maximum amount of vacation time an Employee can have in his or her vacation balance at any one time. Further described and explained in Paragraph 2.2.

**Anniversary Date.** The date on which an Employee began his or her employment with Stryker in a prior year. If an Employee terminated their employment with Stryker and was later rehired, they will be credited with service for purposes of vacation calculations based on their cumulative service. For example, an Employee who worked for Stryker from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2015 will have four years of service for purposes of determining the Employee’s vacation upon rehire.

## Vacation Time

### 1.0 Method of Tracking

**1.1 Accrual.** All U.S. divisions track vacation accumulation and usage for all Employees using an accrual method. Under an accrual method, all Employees will accrue a set amount of vacation time (as set forth in Paragraph 2.3 below) per pay period. No Employee will receive a “grant” or “block” of vacation days after the Effective Date of this Standard.

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## 2.0 **Vacation Accrual and Tracking**

In all U.S. divisions, eligible regular full-time Employees will accrue the following number of vacation days per year, based on their Stryker years of service:

Stryker years of service	0 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15+ years
Annual vacation accrual	15	20	23	25

**2.1 Accrual Per Pay Period.** While the number of days accrued annually is expressed in Paragraph 2.0, Employees will accrue vacation days every pay period based on their annual accrual rate. The chart in paragraph 2.3 shows the per-pay period accrual for Employees.

**2.1.1 Part-Time Employees:** Part-Time Employees will accrue vacation time on a pro-rated basis based upon that Employee’s defined work schedule.

- **Example:** An Employee that is .8 FTE will accrue 80% of the vacation accrued by a full-time Employee in the same service tier. Accordingly, a .8 FTE with 6 years of service will receive 14.5 vacation days per year.

**2.2 Accrual Cap.** Employees may accrue up to 1.5 times their annual vacation benefit in their vacation balance at any one time. For example, an Employee who accrues 15 days of vacation per year may have 22.5 days of vacation in his or her Vacation Balance. An Employee who accrues 20 days of vacation per year may accrue 30 days of vacation in his or her Vacation Balance. Once an Employee’s Vacation Balance reaches the Accrual Cap, **the Employee will not accrue any more vacation days until the number of days in his or her Vacation Balance falls below the accrual cap.** Stryker will not issue any retroactive credit for unearned vacation time during the time when the maximum accrual has been reached.

**2.3 Explanatory Chart.** The per-pay-period accrual and accrual cap described in Paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 are shown in the following chart for all full-time Employees based upon service level:

Stryker years of service	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15 + years
Annual Accrual	15 days 120 hours	20 days 160 hours	23 days 184 hours	25 days 200 hours
Weekly accrual	2.31 hours/ pay period	3.08 hours/ pay period	3.54 hours/ pay period	3.85 hours/ pay period
Semi-monthly accrual	5.0 hours / pay period	6.67 hours / pay period	7.67 hours / pay period	8.34 hours / pay period
Max accrual	22.5 days / 180 hours	30 days / 240 hours	34.5 days / 276 hours	37.5 days / 300 hours

**2.4 Employee Vacation Balances.** Employees will not be required to use all of their vacation time in the year it is earned. Once accrued, vacation time is added to the Employee’s Vacation Balance. Once in the employee’s Vacation Balance, accrued vacation time remains in the Vacation Balance from year to year until it is used, subject to the accrual cap discussed in Paragraph 2.2.

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### 2.5 Use of vacation.

- 2.5.1 Manager Approval Required. Employees may use vacation time, subject to the approval of their manager, as they accrue that time. Employees may not take vacation days that have not been approved by their manager, **even if they have time available in their Vacation Balance.**
- 2.5.2 Notice Required. Employees are expected to submit vacation requests with at least a **48-hour notice**, and with more notice when more notice is possible. Managers may allow for exceptions to this 48-hour notice period for good cause shown by the Employee. Vacation requests for non-exempt Employees should be submitted via same division process – in time and attendance system or other method for manager approval. **Exempt Employees must submit vacation requests through Stryker’s HR system.**
- 2.5.3 Vacation Requests Should Be Granted. The Company encourages employees to use vacation time available to them, so Managers should generally grant vacation requests when the employee has available vacation time and submits the request in accordance with Paragraph 2.5.2 above.
- 2.5.3.1 In appropriate circumstances, managers may deny a vacation request where business needs require it.
- 2.5.3.2 If multiple Employees request time off at the same time, the manager should approve the requests on a first-come, first-served basis.
- 2.5.3.3 Managers may, for business reasons, require that Employees maintain and use a number of vacation days for Holiday plant shutdowns and other similar reasons.
- 2.5.4 No Negative Vacation Balances. In general, employees may not carry a negative Vacation Balance. In other words, Employees may not, unless otherwise stated in this Standard, use vacation time before it is accrued and in their Vacation Balance.
- 2.5.4.1 New Hires. Newly hired Employees may, with manager approval, carry a negative balance in their Vacation Balance in the first six months of their employment. Once an Employee reaches six months of employment, they must have accrued enough vacation time for their Vacation Balance to be zero or above.
- 2.5.5 Use in Half or Full-Day Increments. Employees must use vacation time in ½ day or full day increments.
- 2.5.6 Vacation should not be used for time off that otherwise qualifies for a Leave of Absence (LOA) under Stryker’s Leave of Absence standard. All leave of absences should be requested and facilitated through myHR. To see a full list of qualifying leave of absence options, go to the Leave of Absence standard.
- 2.6 **Anniversary Date Calculation.** For purposes of the vacation accrual rates set forth in Paragraph 2.0, employees shall start accruing at the vacation rate for the next Service Tier on their Stryker Anniversary Date for the year immediately preceding the start of the next Service Tier.
- 2.6.1 Example: an employee will begin accruing 20 days of vacation annually (the amount of accrued days for an employee with 5-9 years of service) on their fourth anniversary with Stryker. That same employee will begin accruing 23 days of vacation annually (the amount of accrued days for an employee with 10-14 years of service) on their ninth anniversary with Stryker.

### 3.0 **Vacation Sell Back and Payouts**

- 3.1 **During Employment.** Current Employees are permitted to “sell” five days out of their Vacation Balance to the Company once per calendar year as long as they have at least ten (10) vacation days in their Vacation

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Balance at the time the

Employee seeks to sell back the days.

- 3.1.1 **Exclusions.** No employee who does not accrue vacation is eligible to sell vacation days, including Direct Sales employees, the managers of Direct Sales employees, and employees at Global Grade 12 and above. In addition, even if they accrue vacation days, no employee whose income is 100% commission-based is eligible to sell vacation days back to the Company.
- 3.1.2 **Calculation of Sell Back Pay.** Employees who sell back vacation will be paid for 40 hours at their regular salary rate in effect at the time they make the request to sell back vacation, minus elected and required deductions. This is calculated by taking the employee's annual salary, dividing it by 2,080 and multiplying the resulting number by 40 to get the total payout. The payment is also considered supplemental income and taxed accordingly. Commissions shall not be considered or factored into vacation sell-back amounts.
- 3.1.3 **Process for Vacation Sell Back.** Current Employees must complete the Vacation Cash Out process in the Workday system to sell back five vacation days. Payment for the five sold vacation days will be made on a regular pay date as soon as is practicable after the request receives manager approval.
- 3.1.4 **No Sell Back After Notice of Resignation or Termination.** Employees who have submitted their notice to the Company of impending resignation or who have been notified of their impending termination by the Company are not eligible to sell back vacation days and will receive appropriate payout for accrued unused vacation days upon termination as discussed in Paragraph 3.2.
- 3.1.5 **One Sell Back Per Year.** Employees may only sell back vacation days once per calendar year, assuming that they meet all other eligibility criteria outlined above.
- 3.1.6 **Requirement to Sell Back Exactly Five Days.** Employees who elect to sell back vacation must sell back exactly five days. Employees are not permitted to sell back less than five days or more than five days at one time.
- 3.2 At Termination.** Upon termination, Stryker employees who work in states where full vacation payouts are not required by law will be eligible for a maximum payout of five vacation days. This payout will be made only if (1) the Employee has vacation days in his or her Vacation Balance as of the date of termination; **and** (2) the Employee has not sold vacation days back to the Company as set forth in Paragraph 3.1 earlier in the calendar year of termination. Employees who receive this payout at termination will receive the payout as part of their final paycheck. If timing does not permit payout with the final paycheck, Stryker will make the payout with the next applicable payroll run. Unless required by another policy or H.R. Standard, no Employee outside of a state where full vacation payouts are required by law will receive a payout of more than five vacation days at termination, even if he or she has more vacation days in his or her Vacation Balance at the time of termination.
- 3.2.1 In states where it is required by law, Employees will be eligible for a payout of his or her entire Vacation Balance at the time of termination. The amount of this payout will depend on the Employee's regular rate of pay.
- 3.2.2 Employees who do not accrue vacation days under this Standard, including Direct Sales employees, sales managers, and employees at Global Grade 12 and above do not receive vacation payouts at termination unless required by state law.
- 3.3 No Vacation or Preference Holiday Usage During Notice Period.** Employees are expected to work during the notice period prior to their termination date. A notice period allows the business to plan the employee's exit, cover the assignments, and begin the recruitment process. For example, if an Employee gives 2 weeks'

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notice, he or she may not use vacation time nor preference holiday during those 2 weeks. If an Employee submits resignation and subsequently requests vacation, it will be denied. If the employee does not work during the notice period, Stryker may accept the Employee's resignation with immediate effect, and the vacation payout will proceed as it normally would under the policy.

## 4.0 Vacation Donation

**4.1 Purpose.** Stryker recognizes that employees may experience family emergencies, illness or injury, personal crises, or disasters resulting in the need for additional time off. To address this need, all eligible employees may donate accrued, unused vacation time from their vacation balance to co-workers, subject to the requirements set forth below. **Note: Vacation donation is strictly voluntary, and no employee is ever required to donate vacation days.**

### 4.2 Eligibility.

4.2.1 To Donate Vacation Days. Employees are eligible to donate vacation days if they meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

4.2.1.1 They must be an employee eligible to accrue and accruing vacation time under this Standard (i.e., employees at Global Grade 12 and above, Direct Sales employees, and Sales Managers may not donate vacation days)

4.2.1.2 They have been employed by Stryker for a minimum of six (6) months

4.2.1.3 They cannot be on an approved leave of absence at the time of donation

4.2.2 To Receive Donated Vacation Days. Employees are eligible to receive donated vacation days if:

4.2.2.1 They experience a Qualifying Event, subject to the exclusions set forth in Paragraph 4.3. A Qualifying Event is any of the following:

4.2.2.1.1 Health Related Emergency: The employee, or a parent, spouse, or child has experienced a Critical or Catastrophic Illness or Injury resulting in a substantial loss of income due to the exhaustion of available paid leave. For purposes of this Standard, a "Critical or Catastrophic Illness or Injury" is an illness or injury that poses a significant threat to the life of the person ill or injured, results in a continuous incapacity of at least one week, or requires inpatient hospital or hospice care.

4.2.2.1.2 Death of Immediate Family: The employee's spouse, parent, or child dies

4.2.2.1.3 Other Serious Crisis: The employee has suffered a serious crisis not included in Paragraphs 4.2.2.1.1 or 4.2.2.1.2 above that results in an inability to come to work for five consecutive business days or more. This can include a natural disaster impacting the employee's primary residence (such as a fire, flood, hurricane, tornado, or earthquake) or an employee or spouse, parent, or child being the victim of a serious violent crime.

### 4.3 Exclusions.

4.3.1 Excluded Events. Employees may **not** receive donated vacation days for:

4.3.1.1 A normal pregnancy or a common and temporary illness

4.3.1.2 A non-critical or catastrophic injury

4.3.1.3 Child bonding

4.3.1.4 An illness or injury for which the employee is receiving income from short-term disability, long-term disability, workers' compensation, or any state-law mandated paid disability program (such as California Paid Family Leave)

4.3.2 Other Exclusions/Restrictions.

4.3.2.1 No employee may donate vacation days to their manager, their second-level manager, their H.R. business partner, or anyone else who is involved in determining the employee's

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performance rating, compensation, or job duties.

- 4.3.2.2 In addition, a manager, second-level manager, or H.R. business partner may **not** request vacation day donation from any employee who is prohibited by Paragraph 4.3.2.1 from donating to them. Managers, second-level managers, and H.R. business partners who request vacation donations from employees prohibited by Paragraph 4.3.2.1 from donating to them will be subject to discipline up to and including termination of employment.
- 4.3.2.3 Managers, second-level managers, or H.R. business partners may **not** ask any employee who is prohibited by Paragraph 4.3.2.1 from donating to them to donate to **any** employee, even if the donation is not for that manager, second-level manager or H.R. business partner. In other words, a manager may not ask members of his or her team to donate vacation to another member of the team or to any other employee. Managers, second-level managers, and H.R. business partners who do so will be subject to discipline up to and including termination of employment.
- 4.3.2.4 Employees may receive a maximum of thirty (30) donated vacation days in any one calendar year.

## 4.4 Process

- 4.4.1 Direct Donation. Eligible employees wishing to donate vacation days may open a case with HR Operations through the myHR Portal to request that days be deducted from their vacation balance and given to the target employee.
  - 4.4.1.1 The Time and Absence Team, prior to facilitating the donation, will ensure that proper eligibility criteria is met; i.e., whether the donor is eligible to donate and whether the recipient is eligible to receive.
  - 4.4.1.2 Wherever possible, if multiple employees intend to donate vacation days to a specific individual, they should combine the requests and make a single request.

## 4.5 Miscellaneous

- 4.5.1 Non-Retaliation. No employee shall ever be required to donate vacation days or pressured to do so. No employee may be retaliated against in any way, including with regard to any employment-related decision, for refusing to donate vacation days under this Standard even if they are directly asked. Managers or employees who engage in retaliatory behavior against employees who do not donate vacation time may be subject to discipline up to and including termination of employment.
- 4.5.2 Confidentiality. No employee is permitted to disclose the existence of another employee's Qualifying Event without the express permission of that employee. In general, for the maintenance of confidentiality, employees who have a Qualifying Event and are in need of donated vacation time should make that request directly. In accordance with Paragraph 4.3.2.3, managers, second-level managers, and H.R. business partners may not disclose a Qualifying Event for the purpose of requesting that employees on their team, in their direct line of reporting, or over whose performance evaluations and compensation they have influence donate vacation days.
- 4.5.3 4-Hour Increments. Employees may donate vacation time in a four (4) hour increments. The minimum donation is four (4) hours.
- 4.5.4 Use of Donated Vacation Days. Employees who receive donated vacation days must use the donated days within three (3) months of donation.
- 4.5.5 Effect of Accrual Cap. Employees who receive vacation donations that put them above the vacation accrual cap will **not** accrue further vacation until they use enough vacation days to fall below the accrual cap.



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- 4.5.6 Application of Vacation Donation and Sell Back. Employees who receive donated vacation days may not sell back any vacation in accordance with Paragraph 3.0 for the remainder of the calendar year in which they have received vacation donations.

## 5.0 Awards and Raffles

- 5.1 **Awards and Raffles.** From time to time, the Company may provide additional vacation days to employees who are the recipients of certain awards or the winners of raffles, such as that associated with the United Way Campaign.
- 5.2 **Restrictions.** Vacation days may be provided via award or raffle only when observing the following restrictions:
- 5.2.1 One Day Per Year. No employee is eligible to receive more than one vacation day in any single calendar year by winning an award or a raffle.
- 5.2.2 No Awards for Essential Job Duties. Employees may not be awarded vacation days for performing duties that are within the normal and essential duties for their position. For example, non-exempt employees may not be awarded vacation days for arriving to work on time. Awards providing vacation days should be for actions which are above and beyond what would normally be expected out of the employee in question.

## Sick Time

The Sick Time Policy applies only to non-exempt Employees in the United States.

## 6.0 Method of Tracking

- 6.1 **Grant.** All non-exempt Employees in U.S. divisions will receive a grant of eight (8) paid sick days, or sixty-four (64) paid sick hours, every January 1 which they may use throughout the calendar year.

## 7.0 Sick Time Tracking and Use

- 7.1 **Coordination with U.S. Handbook.** When using sick time, Employees must follow all policies and provisions related to sick time usage set forth in the U.S. Handbook.
- 7.2 **Use of Sick Time.** Employees must request sick time by informing their manager in writing, including e-mail, of their need for sick time. Employees must inform their manager of their need for sick time at least **30 minutes before the start of their shift**, where that amount of notice is both possible and practical. If the Employee, due to an emergency, is not able to give 30 minutes of notice, they must provide notice as soon as is both possible and practical.
- 7.3 **One-Hour Increments.** Employees may use sick time in increments of one hour.
- 7.4 **Part-Time Employees.** Part-Time employees will be granted sick time on a pro-rated basis based upon that employee's defined work schedule.

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**7.5 Prorated Grant for Newly Hired Employees.** Newly-hired non-exempt Employees will be granted a prorated number of sick days based upon their month of hire:

Month of Hire	Sick Day Grant
January	8
February	8
March	8
April	6
May	6
June	6
July	4
August	4
September	4
October	2
November	2
December	2

**7.6 Payout.**

7.6.1 At Termination. No Employee will be paid out unused sick time at the time of their termination from the Company.

7.6.2 At Year End. Active employees as of December 31 will be paid out for any unused sick time in a regularly-scheduled paycheck by the end of January of the following calendar year. In order to be eligible for this payout, the employee must have been an active, non-exempt employee on December 31 of the prior year.

## **8.0 Difference Between Vacation Days and Sick Days**

**8.1 Difference.** Sick days and vacation days are intended for different purposes and, in general, are not interchangeable.

**8.2 Vacation Days.** Vacation days should be used by employees for “fun,” leisure or recreational activities that are planned in advance, including trips, days off of work to rest and “recharge,” and days off for visiting family members or friends.

**8.3 Sick Days.** Sick days should be used by employees when they are too ill to report to work, for sick or well doctor’s visits for themselves or family members or to care for a child who is ill. Sick days may not be used for leisure or recreational activities for which vacation usage is more appropriate. Moreover, an employee may not request a sick day because he or she failed to request a vacation day with sufficient advance notice. **Sick days may not be used to extend vacation time or otherwise in lieu of vacation days.**

## **9.0 Exceptions**

**9.1 Exceptions Should Be Rare.** It being the purpose of this Standard to create a uniform vacation and sick time benefit for all employees, exceptions to this Standard should be very rare.

**9.2 Recruiters Should Not Use Vacation for Candidate Negotiation.** Vacation accruals should not be considered a negotiating or bargaining tool with regard to applicants and candidates for roles.



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- 9.3 **Exceptions Process.** No exceptions to this policy shall be granted without the approval of the Vice President of Workplace Practices or his/her applicable designee(s).
  
- 9.4 **Managers, Recruiters, HR Business Partners and Interviewers May Not Make Exceptions.** Hiring managers, recruiters, HR business partners and interviewers **may not independently make exceptions** to any provision of this Standard, and Stryker will not honor promises of exceptions made by hiring managers, recruiters, HR business partners or interviewers in violation of this Policy. In such circumstances, the person making the promise of an exception will be required to correct the misunderstanding with the applicant or new employee.

## Document Change History

Version No.	Revision Level	Reason and Description of Revision	Effective Date
1.0	Initial release of policy	Not applicable	January 1, 2018
2.0	Addition of paragraph 3.0	Adding vacation sell-back procedure and donations	January 1, 2019
3.0	General revision of eligibility	Making ineligible GG 15 and 16 employees and Direct Sales Managers and other minor changes	January 1, 2020
4.0	General revision of eligibility	Making ineligible GG 12-14 employees and other minor changes	January 1, 2023
5.0	Correction	Corrected typo in max accrual from 30 hours to 300 hours for the 15+ year category	January 1, 2024
6	Template update only	Content was not changed, template update only	May 15, 2024