Benefits

2026

CITY OF CHULA VISTA

Association of Chula Vista Employees (ACE)

Health and Welfare

The City provides an annual Flex Allotment of $19,664 ($819.33 twice monthly) for ACE employees to use toward the purchase of benefits available under the City's IRS Section 125 Cafeteria Benefits Plan (Flex Plan). From this allotment employees may choose coverage for themselves and their eligible dependents under one of the medical insurance plans offered by the City. Eligible employees may decline medical insurance coverage. With the remaining allotment amount, employees may elect dental and/or vision coverage for themselves and their eligible dependents and/or set aside funds in a flexible spending account (FSA) for reimbursement of eligible health care or dependent care expenses. The Flex Allotment and taxable cash option are prorated based on date of hire.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

The City currently offers a Kaiser Permanente HMO, Aetna Whole Health Southern CA HMO, Aetna Full Network HMO, and Aetna PPO plans to its active employees and their eligible dependents through its Flex Plan. Medical insurance coverage is effective on the first of the month following an employee's date of hire. Eligible employees may waive City-sponsored medical coverage. Flex Allotment of employees waiving coverage and those with Employee Only medical coverage is fixed at $13,024 ($542.67 twice monthly).

DENTAL INSURANCE

The City currently offers the Cigna DHMO and DPPO dental plans. Coverage is effective on the first of the month following an employee's date of hire.

VISION INSURANCE

The City currently offers the EyeMed PPO vision insurance Plan. Coverage is effective on the first of the month following an employee's date of hire.

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS (FSAs)

The City offers both Health Care and Dependent/Child Care FSAs. FSAs may be funded by your Flex Plan allotment and/or payroll deductions. The maximum annual Health FSA allocation is $3,400. Dependent/Child Care FSAs are limited to $7,500 from all sources.

CASH PAYMENT OPTION

Employees hired before January 1, 2018, may elect to receive up to $9,100 ($379.17 twice monthly) of unused Flex Plan Allotment funds remaining after electing medical, dental, vision, and/or FSA coverage as a taxable cash option. The maximum an employee can cash out each year cannot exceed the cash option they received in the previous calendar year.

LIFE INSURANCE

The City provides employees with a $50,000 Group Term Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment policy. In addition to the basic life insurance provided by the City, employees may purchase Optional coverage in multiples of $10,000, up to a maximum of $550,000 or four times their annual salary, whichever is less. An employee can elect coverage for their dependent spouse or domestic partner up to the lesser of $100,000 and 50% of the employee's coverage, in $10,000 increments. Coverage of $10,000 is available for dependent children up to age 26.

SHORT/LONG-TERM DISABILITY (STD/LTD) INSURANCE

The City provides employees with Short Term and Long-Term Disability insurance. If the employee is disabled according to the policy's definition of disability, the employee may be eligible to receive a benefit based upon 60% of the basic earnings up to a maximum of $2,500 per week. Benefits would begin after an "Elimination Period" of 30 days for an accident or sickness and would be paid for as long as the employee continues to meet the policy's definition of disability. STD benefits are payable for up to nine weeks. After nine weeks, coverage transitions to LTD. LTD benefit is 60% of the employee's monthly earnings to a maximum of $10,000 per month. LTD benefits duration is based on the employee's age when the disability occurs up to the Social Security normal retirement age. Employees do not pay into State Disability Insurance (SDI).

Retirement

BASIC RETIREMENT

The City contracts with CalPERS for the provisions of its retirement benefits as set forth in the California Government Code and California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013.

Retirement Tier	Retirement Formula	Employee Deduction	Minimum Age for Retirement
Tier 1 Retirement	Local Miscellaneous 3% @ 60	11.790%	50
Tier 2 Retirement	Local Miscellaneous 2% @ 60	9.610%	50
Tier 3 Retirement	Local Miscellaneous 2% @ 62	7.500%	52

Tier 1 – Employees who became CalPERS members with the City of Chula Vista prior to 04/22/2011
Tier 2 - Employees who became members of CalPERS or a reciprocal agency between 04/22/2011 through 12/31/2012
Tier 3 - New CalPERS members or reciprocal agency members on or after 01/01/2013

Employees may retire when they reach minimum age for retirement with five years of CalPERS service credit. Following is a summary of the CalPERS contract provisions:

- One Year Final Compensation (Tier 1 only)
- Employer Paid Member Contributions Reported as Earnings (Tier 1)
- Three Year Final Compensation (Tier 2 & 3)
- 1959 Survivor Benefit - Level 4
- Post Retirement Survivor's Continuance
- Military Service Credit as Public Service
- Credit for Unused Sick Leave
- Retired Death Benefit $5,000
- Social Security Coverage-None

457 DEFERRED COMPENSATION

The City offers a 457 plan through Nationwide. Participation in the plan is voluntary and 100% employee funded.

POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH PLAN (PEHP)

Employees may participate in a Post Employment Health Plan (PEHP), funded with mandatory eligible employee contributions, specifically any unused vacation and Compensatory Time Off (CTO) balances due to the employee at the time of retirement will be rolled over into the PEHP. Employees not wishing to participate may sell back up to 100% of vacation (annual leave) and CTO balances the last full pay period of employment prior to retirement.

Vacation, Holidays and Leaves

VACATION

ACE employees will be credited vacation hours on a biweekly basis and shall accrue the following:

	Maximum Accrual
• 10 days (0 - 4 years of service)	180 hours
• 15 days (5 - 9 years of service)	260 hours
• 20 days (10 - 14 years of service)	340 hours
• 25 days (15+ years of service)	420 hours

Employees who have completed at least five (5) years of service may sell back to the City up to 80 hours of accrued vacation in 20-hour increments each calendar year via irrevocable election consistent with IRS regulations. Elections for annual cash out must be made by December 1 of the prior calendar year.

SICK LEAVE

ACE employees accrue 96 hours per year at a rate of 3.69 hours per pay period. If during a fiscal year in which the employee was employed as of July 1 and he/she uses 32 hours or less of sick leave, he/she may convert 25% of the remaining fiscal year's accrual to vacation hours.

HARD HOLIDAYS

The City is closed and employees receive compensation for the following holidays:

- New Year's Day - January 1
- Farmworkers Day - March 31
- Juneteenth – June 19
- Labor Day - First Monday in September
- Thanksgiving Day - Fourth Thursday in November
- Christmas - December 25
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Third Monday in January
- Memorial Day - Last Monday in May
- Independence Day - July 4
- Veterans Day - November 11
- Day after Thanksgiving

FLOATING HOLIDAYS

Employees are credited with 24 hours each fiscal year for the following floating holidays:

- Lincoln's Birthday - February 12
- Admission Day - September 9
- Washington's Birthday - Third Monday in February

VOLUNTARY WORK FURLOUGH

Eligible employees may elect to purchase 40 hours of work furlough leave once every fiscal year. There will be a deduction of 1.92% from the employee's gross wages every pay period to pay for the furlough. Furlough hours will be available for employees to use throughout the fiscal year and must be exhausted by June 30 of each year. Any remaining balance by the end of the fiscal year will be forfeited.

Other Benefits

BILINGUAL PAY

Upon recommendation of the Department Head, approval of the Director of Human Resources and successful completion of a bilingual performance evaluation, an ACE employee will receive $100 per month in addition to his/her regular pay on the condition that bilingual skills are continuously utilized in the performance of his/her duties. Eligible employees may receive an additional $5.00 per hour for actual time spent translating a document.

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

ACE employees shall be subject to mileage reimbursement when required to use their private automobile for authorized City business.

PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT

ACE employees may use up to a maximum of $2,000 per fiscal year to pay for education, conferences, and training per the City's Professional Enrichment Program.

UNIFORM ALLOWANCE

ACE employees will be provided with uniform allowance as specified in the applicable Memorandum of Understanding.

CALLBACK PAY

ACE employees may receive a $25 stipend when called at home during non-working hours to perform work on behalf of the City. Whenever employees are called back to work after they have left their work site, they will receive $60 in addition to a minimum of two hours of overtime pay.

CERTIFICATION PAY

The City will provide $20 for each job-related certificate that meet the criteria of the Certification Pay Policy, with a maximum of four (4) job-related certificates (maximum of $80 per pay period). Equipment Mechanics and Senior Equipment Mechanics receive 2% of base salary for obtaining and maintaining a State of CA Fire Mechanic I certificate or 5% of base salary for obtaining and maintaining a State of CA Fire Mechanic II certificate.

FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PAY

ACE public safety employees designated by the Appointing Authority as Field Training Officers (FTOs) will be paid an additional amount of $2.40 per hour when engaged as FTOs. Employees who are designated as a Formal Trainer will be paid a $10 stipend for every four (4) hours in a workweek when engaged in formal training activities.

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENT

Employees may receive 7.5% up to 15% Out of Class pay when designated by a supervisor in the event that they are assigned duties of a higher level classification.

SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL

Eligible employees shall receive extra compensation of $80 biweekly. Eligible Detentions Officers and Police Dispatchers shall receive $110 per pay period.

SPECIAL PROJECT PAY

Employees may receive up to 15% additional compensation when assigned by the City Manager to a special project.

STANDBY PAY

Employees on standby duty shall be compensated at the rate of $200 for each full work week during which they are assigned to standby duty.

Information contained herein is for informational purposes only. If there is conflicting information, the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Chula Vista and Association of Chula Vista Employees and/or Civil Service Rules will prevail.