October 28, 2022

In preparation for the upcoming holiday season, employees should be aware of both holiday and winter closure dates.

**Paid Holidays**
- Fall Break: Thursday, November 24 & Friday, November 25, 2022
- Christmas: Friday, December 23 & Monday, December 26, 2022
- New Year: Friday, December 30 & Monday, January 2, 2023

**Winter Closure**
- Hard Closure: December 23, 2022 through January 2, 2023
- Soft Closure: December 19, 2022 through January 6, 2023

Four days of the winter closure period are paid holidays: Dec. 23, Dec. 26, Dec. 30 and Jan. 2. Three days of the winter closure period (Hard Closure) — Dec. 27, 28 and 29 — are not paid holidays. On those days, employees will need to use Annual Leave, Leave Without Pay, Faculty Time Off or Personal Holiday. Likewise, employees who choose to participate in the Soft Closure period will need to take Annual Leave, Leave Without Pay or Personal Day. Faculty can also choose to take Faculty Time Off.

Some departments must remain open during the Hard Closure. Supervisors and unit leaders should consult with their president, chancellor, vice president, chief officer, provost, or vice chancellor, as appropriate, to determine required staffing levels to maintain university operations. Units wishing to consider partial or full closure during Soft Closure days should work with their respective leadership point of contact. Leadership will work with the department/unit to make sure operating needs are met.

Once the business hours for a department have been determined and announced by the supervisor, employees should coordinate with their supervisor regarding leave options and schedules. Employees should be aware that retirement eligibility (PERS and TRS) may be affected if leave without pay exceeds 10 days in a creditable year.

If you have questions about UA Holidays, please contact your direct supervisor or ua-benefits@alaska.edu.