Upon recommendation of the supervising officer and the superintendent and upon approval of the board, provision may be made for leave of absence for full-time academic study. Upon completion of satisfactory professional services in the Jackson Public School District in administrative, supervisory or instructional positions for three years, personnel become eligible for leave of absence for study, provided such leave does not exceed two summers and one academic year (summer-academic year-summer). An employee granted full-time leave without compensation may return to the position vacated or be assigned to an equivalent position for which he is qualified. Such leave may commence at the close of a contract period, or begin on a date mutually acceptable to responsible school officers. Application for leave must be presented for approval to the appropriate assistant superintendent and forwarded to the designee of the superintendent in the personnel office on or before December 1 of the previous year. The superintendent will announce all approved leaves by February 15 of the year in which the leave of absence is to be effective.

The following conditions govern the approval of requests for leave of absence for study:

**EXPERIENCE**

Persons will be eligible for study leave when they have completed six years of experience as defined by state law, provided that the last three years of school experience have been with the Jackson Public School District.

**SALARY INDEX**

Personnel approved for study leave will be advanced on the salary index when reemployed in the same manner as one whose service was uninterrupted.

**COLLEGE CREDIT**

Full-time study is defined as that requiring the completion of a minimum of nine (9) semester of twelve (12) quarter hours of college credit each academic period excluding the summer session. Such requirements may be altered subject to transcript verification of prescriber hours for completion of course work.

**EMPLOYEE’S RESPONSIBILITY**
All rights and privileges contained in this policy are contingent upon its application under court decrees and the employee’s return to the Jackson Public School District immediately upon expiration date of leave.

FAILURE TO COMPLY

Failure of participants to comply with conditions governing the policy for full-time academic study nullifies any obligation of the board.

SOURCE: Jackson Public School District, Jackson, Mississippi
LEGAL REF: Section 37-19-1; Mississippi Code of 1972
DATE: October 25, 1982
AMENDED: July 16, 1990
REVIEWED: May 26, 2006
December 6, 2016