



# Archdiocese of Regina

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Chancery Office

## GUIDELINES FOR CLERICS' EXTENDED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. A cleric may voluntarily request a leave of absence for his personal reasons, perhaps because he does not wish to continue in ministry or because he wants to pursue other interests. The cleric is required to present his case to the Archbishop after deep prayerful discernment
2. A cleric may voluntarily request for leave of absence because of an illness or some other obstacle which prevents him from fulfilling his ministerial obligations. An Incardinated priest desiring to take such a leave of absence for health reasons is required to present to the Archbishop his physician's health report stating the nature of the problem and estimated required leave period.
3. An extended leave of absence may be granted for one year, with accompanying sustenance (*sustentatio*; canon 384). (*Sustentatio* because of their clerical state, but not *remuneratio* because they no longer perform the ministerial duties entrusted to them).
4. If a cleric was placed on involuntary leave of absence due to a suspension, his *remuneratio* may be restricted by the penalty, but not his right to *sustentatio*. However, if the voluntary or involuntary leave lasts for more than one year, special arrangements will be negotiated to cover essential needs of the cleric. In the light of canon 195, the Archbishop will consider what sources of income are available to the cleric when determining this arrangement. If he seeks other employment, his *sustentatio* is provided through his income.
5. Non-incardinated priests who would like to take a voluntary/extended leave of absence should also contact their Ordinaries as this leave can only be granted by one's proper Ordinary.
6. The Archbishop will decide if a cleric will be allowed to hold Archdiocesan Faculties while on Extended Leave of Absence.

Signed: Archbishop Daniel Bohan

Archbishop of Regina  
September 3, 2015