

## **PAY AGREEMENT FOR LABORATORY TECHNICIANS (THE NATIONAL UNION OF COMMERCIAL AND CLERICAL EMPLOYEES (HK))**

### **1. Persons covered**

The pay agreement covers laboratory technicians employed with Aarhus University in accordance with the circular on the trade union agreement for administrative officers, laboratory technicians and IT employees (HK).

### **2. Framework and purpose**

The framework for the pay agreement is Aarhus University's staff policy adopted at a Main Liaison Committee (HSU)/Main Occupational Health and Safety Committee (HAMU) meeting on 12 May 2016. The pay agreement is a tool for realising the objectives of Aarhus University's staff policy.

As set out in the staff policy, Aarhus University's goals are:

- to ensure that each employee's pay reflects his or her function, level of responsibility, efforts and relevant competencies
- to ensure that pay negotiations at Aarhus University take place in a fair and transparent manner

### **3. Pay system**

The pay agreement is based on the base pay system outlined in the trade union agreement.

Aarhus University and the union representatives of the Danish Laboratory Technicians Association (*Dansk Laborantforening*) have noted the intention of the parties to the collective agreement that the base salaries be supplemented with the introduction of local supplements. Through the introduction of local supplements, the pay instrument can be used strategically to ensure that each employee's pay to a higher degree reflects his or her special qualifications, functions and results achieved in relation to the institution's objectives.

- Supplements may be awarded as supplements for qualifications or as supplements for responsibilities
- Supplements are stated in basic amounts (31 March 2012 level) and are awarded as permanent or temporary supplements
- Supplements are adjusted in relation to the employee's employment rate
- One-off bonuses may be awarded for extraordinary work efforts

Individual agreements concerning supplements for employees are concluded between the university director, or the dean, and the union representatives of the Danish Laboratory Technicians Association at Aarhus University. The university director, or the dean, may have delegated this authority.

The right to negotiate and the right to conclude pay agreements may not be delegated to an organisational level below that of head of department (Aarhus BSS, HE and ST)/head of school (Arts)/deputy director. Heads of departments/heads of schools/deputy directors may request the assistance of lower-level managers in connection with the negotiations, but the right to negotiate and the right to conclude pay agreements may not be delegated any further. However, subject to agreement between management and employee representatives, the authority to negotiate may be delegated to a lower level.

#### **4. General information on supplements and one-off bonuses**

Supplements consist of a minimum amount of DKK 10,000 per year (31 March 2012 level). Advancement to a higher pay group may be agreed without the simultaneous award of a minimum amount.

- Permanent and temporary supplements are pensionable
- Supplements are adjusted in line with the general pay increases agreed through central collective bargaining or implemented in the pay adjustment scheme
- Supplements for responsibilities are generally temporary, with such supplements being paid only for as long as the responsibilities are being undertaken and ceasing once the responsibilities are no longer undertaken
- One-off bonuses consist of a minimum amount of DKK 10,000 (current level) and are generally non-pensionable

Laboratory assistants who are **not** trained laboratory technicians may, based on an individual assessment, be placed in or advanced to pay group 2, rate I, if their personal qualifications/competencies or the circumstances otherwise warrant such placement or advancement.

An annex to the pay agreement lists a number of examples of criteria which may form the basis of negotiations between management and the union representatives of the Danish Laboratory Technicians Association concerning the payment of supplements for qualifications, recruitment supplements, retention supplements or supplements for responsibilities. The lists are not exhaustive.

#### **5. Pay level**

Aarhus University's goal is to offer attractive terms of employment and to support a good work

environment through the fair allocation of payroll funds.

Aarhus University wishes to promote employee motivation and well-being among other things by ensuring that the individual employee's pay, function, level of responsibility and effort are commensurate. Special emphasis is placed on equal treatment. As a general rule, employees with comparable functions and qualifications etc. must be able to attain the same pay level, regardless of their organisational placement and the source of the payroll funds.

Payroll funds may be used to attract and retain particularly qualified employees.

The parties agree that advancement to a higher pay group is a natural step if the sum of the pay in the current basic pay group and of the agreed supplements will exceed the pay for the higher pay group.

However, advancement to pay groups 6 and 7 must be based on a specific assessment. Thus, an employee placed in pay group 5 may earn a total pay which corresponds to or exceeds the pay determined for pay groups 6 and 7.

In connection with advancement to a higher pay group, the future pay is based on negotiations between management and the union representative.

## **6. New employees**

When recruiting salaried staff, the local union representative for the relevant area is involved in the negotiation of pay.

The negotiation of pay level and any supplements in connection with recruitment takes place between the relevant local union representative and the head of department/head of school/deputy director assisted by HR.

Prior to the negotiations, the union representative and the manager, assisted by HR, assess the employee's competencies, pay level and recruitment situation.

Once management has approved a recommendation regarding an appointment and has offered the position to the recommended candidate, management – via HR – contacts the local union representative to arrange the negotiation of the candidate's pay in due course.

The local union representative contacts the applicant about the pay negotiations. The pay negotiations are based on the pay level for the relevant job category.

Any agreement concerning supplement(s) must be documented and forms the basis of the final contract of employment with Aarhus University. As far as possible, the terms of pay applying to the employment

should be agreed prior to the commencement of the employment.

## **7. Negotiation procedure**

The annual pay negotiations for employees under the new pay systems are organised and carried out as a single process in the first six months of the year. Supplements are agreed with effect from 1 April of the pay negotiation year. Supplements for responsibilities may, however, be agreed from another effective date, but no earlier than from the commencement of the function. As far as possible, the annual pay negotiations should be concluded by the end of June.

With the assistance of HR, the local negotiating parties are responsible for organising the pay negotiations within this time frame and in a way that ensures a constructive negotiation culture with focus on the discussion of pay, performance and competencies.

The managers agree with the union representatives or the local liaison committees (LSU) how the conclusion of the pay negotiations and the overall results of the negotiations should be communicated to the individual employees having applied for a pay increase as well as to the entire unit.

Information about the results of the negotiations is provided immediately after the conclusion of the pay negotiations.

In addition, proposals for extraordinary payments or increased supplements for employees may be made at any time by both management and the union representative. The aim is for the consideration of such proposals to take no longer than one month.

Reference is made to Guidelines for the pay negotiation process at Aarhus University.

## **8. Contracting parties**

The pay agreement enters into force on 1 February 2017 and replaces all previous pay agreements at Aarhus University as a whole for laboratory technicians (Danish Laboratory Technicians Association).

The pay agreement may be terminated subject to three months' notice; however, by 31 March 2018 at the earliest. Any amendments are subject to agreement by the parties.

Aarhus, 09.12.2016

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Union representative of the Danish Laboratory Technicians Association

## 9. Rules

- Circular on the trade union agreement for administrative officers, laboratory technicians and IT employees (the National Union of Commercial and Clerical Employees) (Cirkulære om organisationsaftale for kontorfunktionærer, laboranter og it-medarbejdere (HK)); the Agency for the Modernisation of Public Administration's circular no. 016-15.

## EXAMPLES OF CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD OF SUPPLEMENTS TO LABORATORY TECHNICIANS

### Supplements for qualifications:

The following criteria are examples of criteria which may form the basis of the award of supplements for qualifications if the qualifications have not already been considered in connection with the pay group placement. The list is not exhaustive.

- Teaching and instruction of students, laboratory technicians and academic staff
- Work experience relevant to performing the job, including special knowledge about certain procedures and routines
- Relevant further and continuing education
- Sole responsibility (e.g. for techniques, equipment, patient examinations, research projects, test planning and animal testing)
- Skills within innovation, development and strategic thinking
- Special commitment in connection with new duties

### Supplements for responsibilities:

The following criteria are examples of criteria which may form the basis of the award of supplements for responsibilities if the responsibilities have not already been considered in connection with the pay group placement. The list is not exhaustive.

- Performance of safety-related tasks, e.g. registration of chemicals, waste handling, marking or

implementation of new acts and regulations.

- Responsible for interns at departmental/school level
- Administrative tasks such as purchasing/inventory management/budget/accounts/equipment administration
- Managerial tasks
- Handling and coordination of liaising with partners

**One-off bonuses:**

The following criteria are examples of criteria which may form the basis of the award of one-off bonuses. The list is not exhaustive:

- Major routine tasks
- Participation in projects of limited scope or duration – possibly outside the employee's area of expertise
- Relocation/clearing/renovation/establishment

**Social values:**

- Responsibility towards colleagues and promoting good working conditions
- Collaborative skills
- Enterprising/creative