Examples of Catastrophic Medical Situations
March 1, 2018

The following is a brief list of examples of catastrophic medical situations identified by the Social Security Agency. These conditions are mostly adult impairments; however, if a parent has a child with one of these conditions, it might be considered an eligible catastrophic situation under the U of A Cooperative Extension Service Catastrophic Leave Bank Program. Although this is not an all-inclusive list, the Catastrophic Leave Committee may use it among other factors in determining catastrophic leave awards.

Brief listing of illnesses/injuries which may be considered for automatic approval:
1. Complicated joint/spine surgery, with ongoing surgical management for infection, fractures with delayed healing, etc.
2. Major amputations, beyond the carpal and tarsal bones
3. Heart transplant
4. Lung transplant
5. Kidney transplant
6. Liver transplant
7. Bone marrow/stem cell transplant
8. Major burn injuries
9. Cardiac surgery (coronary artery bypass, heart valves, aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease)
10. Major GI surgery (perforated bowel, bowel resection)
11. Hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis (kidney disease requiring dialysis)
12. Uncontrolled seizure disorder with:
   a. Generalized tonic-clonic seizures occurring at least once a month for at least three consecutive months despite adherence to prescribed treatment
   b. Dyscognitive seizures occurring at least once a week for at least three consecutive months despite adherence to prescribed treatment
   c. Generalized tonic-clonic seizures occurring at least once every two months for at least four consecutive months despite adherence to prescribed treatment and a marked limitation in one of the following:
      1. Physical functioning or,
      2. Understanding, remembering or applying information or,
      3. Interacting with others or
      4. Concentrating, persisting or maintaining pace or
      5. Adapting or managing oneself.
   d. Dyscognitive seizures, occurring at least once every two weeks for at least three consecutive months despite adherence to prescribed treatment and a marked limitation in one of the following:
      1. Physical functioning or,
      2. Understanding, remembering or applying information or,
      3. Interacting with others or,
      4. Concentrating, persisting or maintaining pace or
      5. Adapting or managing oneself.
13. Acute CVS (stroke) with significant neurologic deficits
14. Symptomatic benign or malignant brain tumors
15. Spinal cord disorder with loss of function
16. Uncontrollable multiple sclerosis with:
   a. disorganization of motor function in two extremities, resulting in an
      extreme limitation in the ability to stand up from a seated position, balance
      while standing or walking, or use of the upper extremities; or
   b. marked limitation in physical functioning, and in one of the following:
      1. Understanding, remembering or applying information or
      2. Interacting with others or
      3. Concentrating, persisting or maintaining pace or
      4. Adapting or managing oneself.
17. Traumatic brain injury with significant neurologic deficits
18. Most newly diagnosed cancer requiring a combination of surgery and/or
    chemotherapy and/or radiation
19. Trauma requiring surgical intervention and rehabilitation
20. Hospitalization for two weeks or more
21. Hospitalization requiring inpatient rehabilitation services after discharge
22. Non-healing wounds with documented history of treatment x 3 months
23. Care for a child or spouse diagnosed with life-threatening illness