



**Campus Administrative Policy**

**Policy Title: Alternative Work Schedules and Remote Work Arrangements**

Policy Number: 4032      Functional Area: Human Resources

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Effective: June 1, 2021, Denver Campus  
September 7, 2021, Anschutz Medical Campus & Consolidated Units

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Supersedes: Alternative Work Arrangements, September 2, 2020

Approved by: Donald M. Elliman, Jr.  
Chancellor, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus  
Michelle Marks  
Chancellor, University of Colorado Denver

Prepared by: Associate Vice Chancellor, Human Resources  
University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Reviewing Offices: Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer  
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus  
Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer  
University of Colorado Denver

Responsible Officer: Associate Vice Chancellor, Human Resources  
University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Applies to: CU Anschutz Medical Campus  
CU Denver Campus

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**A. INTRODUCTION**

The University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus is committed to providing efficient and effective services to its students, staff, and the public. This work is achieved through the efforts of a skilled and dedicated workforce comprised of faculty and staff. Faculty and staff are expected to be available to students, colleagues and university constituents on a regular and consistent basis while focusing on the execution of their work, all in support of their department and the university mission.

The purpose of this policy is to set forth guidelines for supervisors who wish to implement alternative work schedules and/or remote work arrangements for employees in their unit.

**B. POLICY STATEMENT**

Alternative work schedules and/or remote work arrangements, as defined below and in APS 5026, are granted to employees only with the approval of the employee’s supervisor, and/or the approving authority as specified in section B.3. Alternative work schedules and/or remote work arrangements do not affect a supervisor’s ability to change work expectations or the employee’s work schedule. Alternative work schedules and/or remote work arrangements may be discontinued or modified at any time.

Supervisors and/or appointing authorities determine whether an alternative schedule or remote (or partially remote) work is appropriate based on the essential duties of each employee’s job/role and the needs of the University. With respect to remote work (or partially remote work) an assessment should be made on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the work needs to be conducted entirely on-campus, partially on-campus (hybrid), or entirely remotely. Alternative work schedules and/or remote work is an option, not an entitlement, and such arrangements do not change the terms and conditions of employment. A unit or school/college may decide not to permit alternative work schedules and/or remote work due to the nature of their operations.

The essential consideration should be the provision of optimal customer service, and work schedules and locations which are advantageous to both customers and employees. The following factors should be considered by supervisors and appointing authorities prior to implementing an alternative work schedule and/or a remote work arrangement:

- Nature of the work performed by the employee
- Impact on productivity, individually and departmentally
- Ability to ensure coverage for functions without burdening other employees
- Ability to meet customer service needs and peak workloads
- Employee’s overall performance and ability to work independently and productively while providing regular and ad hoc reports of work activities
- Supervisor’s ability to evaluate performance based upon results or outcomes
- Impact of Fair Labor Standards Act overtime requirements on the employee’s alternative work schedule

Some departments will not be able to implement alternative work schedules or remote or partially-remote work arrangements due to the responsibilities, structure, size, or priorities of the department or of individual jobs. All alternative work schedules and/or remote work arrangements must be documented in writing and reviewed on a regular basis (to be determined at the unit level) or at a minimum as part of the annual performance review.

**Types of Alternative Work Schedules**

**1. Alternative Work Schedules**

The basic work requirement for a full-time employee is 40 work hours per week (excluding lunch). Units establish “core” hours of operation for the unit. An

alternative work schedule allows the definition of alternate start and end times for the days of an employee's work week. For example, pursuant to a supervisor-approved alternative work schedule, an employee may work 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in a unit that is open for service during "core" hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## 2. Compressed Work Week

Compressed workweeks are authorized schedules where the number of days worked over a one or two week period is reduced, with extended hours during the days worked. Examples of compressed workweek schedules include the following:

- 4/10 schedule: A full-time employee works ten hours per day (excluding lunch) for four days per week.
- 4 ½ day schedule: A full-time employee works four nine hour days (excluding lunch) and one four hour day per week.
- 9/80 schedule: A full-time employee works four nine hour days (excluding lunch) and one eight hour day (excluding lunch) in one week and works four nine hour days (excluding lunch) the following week. *For FLSA purposes, a 9/80 schedule requires an adjustment of the defined workweek if the position is eligible for overtime. This adjustment must be reviewed in advance and approved by central HR compensation.*

## 3. Remote Work

- **Remote work** involves working from a location other than the primary worksite. Some positions, duties, responsibilities, and projects are more suitable for working from a remote location (either fully or partially) than others. Responsibilities that do not require face-to-face interaction, require minimal supervision, involve the extensive use of computers and/or telephones, and have clearly defined and easily measurable tasks may be appropriate for remote or partially-remote work. Appointing authorities and/supervisors must examine the employee's distinct activities, functions, and tasks to determine whether remote work may be suitable, or is required (for example, if office space is not available at the worksite). If remote work is authorized, the employee must account for all scheduled hours not worked with the appropriate leave designation. If eligible for overtime, the employee must receive approval prior to working overtime.
- The University has the right to allow University-owned hard/software to be taken to the home, or to require the use of compatible employee-owned hard/software. If using university supplied equipment, data, or supplies, these may only be used for official university business and must be returned to the university at the termination of the remote work arrangement or upon request

by the university. Units are required to track University assets being utilized off-campus. The employee is responsible for operating costs, home maintenance and any other cost associated with the use of the employee's remote work location.

- Units are required to review and incorporate campus standards, guidelines and requirements into the remote working process when applicable:
  - Proper management of HIPAA, FERPA, and other protected and sensitive information while working remotely.
  - Proper IT set-up for remote working, including securing equipment from campus, creating a safe home workspace, document and data protection, security, and safety considerations as defined by the Office of Information Technology in collaboration with schools and colleges IT departments.
- Remote work locations may not be used for in-person meetings related to University operations, unless approved by the school or unit and specifically addressed in the individual's Remote Working plan.

#### 4. Approval Processes

**Alternative Work Schedules:** An employee must complete the Alternative Work Schedule Request Form (Appendix B) and submit it to their supervisor. Requests are subject to supervisor approval and approved requests must be retained in department files. Supervisors have the authority to approve one-time, non-recurrent requests and requests that involve modification of the employee's core hours if it is appropriate for the work unit business. Schools or units may reserve the right to review or approve alternative work schedules at a higher level.

**Compressed Work Schedules:** An employee must complete the Compressed Work Week Request Form (Appendix D) and submit it to their supervisor. The supervisor will review the request with the employee and revise, as necessary. Compressed schedule requests must be submitted by the supervisor to the cognizant dean, Chancellor/Provost (or designee) or unit vice chancellor (associate vice chancellor in consolidated units) for approval and must be maintained in department files. *If an overtime-eligible employee is being considered for a 9/80 work week, the supervisor must in all cases contact central HR to correctly adjust the defined workweek in time reporting and leave systems.*

**Remote Work :** The supervisor must complete a Remote Work Participation Agreement (Appendix C) and submit it to the designated approvers. The approvers will review the request with the supervisor and may revise or deny the arrangement depending on circumstances and business need. Remote Work Participation Agreements must be submitted by the supervisor to the cognizant dean,

Chancellor/Provost (or designee) or unit vice chancellor (associate vice chancellor in consolidated units). Remote Work Arrangements must also be submitted to the associate vice chancellor of Human Resources (or designee) for approval *if the arrangement involves accommodation of a medical condition, or if the employee's performance is not satisfactory*. If approved, the supervisor will secure the employee's signature on the form and maintain it in department files for review or audit on request by Human Resources, Risk Management, Internal Audit, or other offices.

## Notes

1. Dates of official enactment and amendments:  
August 23, 2019: Adopted/Approved by both Chancellors  
August 31, 2020: Amended  
April 12, 2021: Amended
2. History:  
October 1, 2019: In March of 2019, a working group was chartered to propose an Alternative Work Arrangement Policy (and associated Guidelines) for the CU Denver Campus and CU Anschutz Medical Campus. This policy provides clear standards and approval requirements for managers who wish to implement alternative work arrangements for employees in their unit that are different than the core university hours of Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or to implement arrangements wherein employees work a part of their schedule from a remote location.  
August 31, 2020: Addendum added to address the COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts  
April 28, 2021: Addendum added to address remote work arrangements
3. Initial Policy Effective Date: October 1, 2019
4. Cross References/Appendix:
  - Amendment: Interim Remote/Alternative Work Arrangement Guidance
  - Administrative Policy Statement 5026 – Alternative Work Arrangements for Classified and University Staff
  - Appendix A: Remote Work Guidelines (may be modified by department/school)
  - Appendix B: Alternative Work Schedule Request Form
  - Appendix C: Remote Work Participation Agreement
  - Appendix D: Compressed Work Schedule Request Form
  - Appendix E: Redefining the Work Week for Overtime Eligible employees



## APPENDIX A

### REMOTE WORK ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

#### Eligibility for Remote Work

Remote work may only be authorized for employees who:

- Have job duties that are portable and can be accomplished remotely from the physical locations of the university.
- Are able to work independently and productively and provide regular/continual and as-requested reports on work activities.
- Are satisfactorily meeting the expectations of their position as evidenced by a “Meets Expectations” or better rating on their most recent performance evaluation or supervisor observation.
- Provide, or have access to, a physical work location including a laptop or personal computer (equal to or better than that available to the employee in the workplace) that the employee acknowledges may be used for official university business. This includes, but is not limited to, adequate internet connectivity, telephone access, supplies and physical workstation arrangements. All university requirements with respect to maintaining computer security and updates must be met. **The university will not reimburse for the cost of cell phones or home phones or internet services.** Calls may be forwarded to the employee’s personal cell phone or home phone while working from a remote location. If voicemails come in via e-mail, they may be returned using the employee’s personal cell phone or home phone. The Office of Information Technology offers instruction on accessing campus resources remotely, as well as best practices for video conferences, online chats, virtual collaboration and more. Should equipment need to be updated, OIT should be consulted for standardization recommendations and best practice options.
- Have and maintain access to alternative communication methods, as determined with their supervisor (i.e., *Skype for Business, Slack, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, etc.*).
- Have and maintain access to arrangements (such as Jabber) to retrieve and respond to phone messages and email throughout their workday in a prompt and timely manner. Phone calls are expected to be answered in real-time, and employees working remotely are required to be available during their approved work schedules.
- Have and maintain an ergonomically appropriate workspace.

- Maintain a weekly work schedule that equals the number of hours dictated by the employee's FTE (*1.0 FTE = 40 hours a week, excluding lunch*) which align with the business needs and normal operating schedule of the unit.
- Attend all mandatory in-person university, department and constituent meetings in person, which may include, but are not limited to staff meetings and other key meetings.
- Have and maintain formal dependent care arrangements during the remote work day [except as stipulated under the September 2, 2020 Alternative Work Arrangement & COVID-19 Addendum]. Employees working remotely may not also be providing primary care to any individual during the work day. Dependents receiving care from a third party in the same location from which the employee is telecommuting must be receiving this care in a separate area of the remote worksite.
- Have and maintain a schedule that does not negatively impact the workload or productivity of coworkers either by shifting burdens or by creating delays or additional steps in work flow and processes.
- Follow the same leave reporting requirements that apply to leave taken on days otherwise scheduled to work at a remote location (i.e. sick leave, doctor's appointments, half-day vacation, etc.); planned and unplanned absences must be recorded in My.Leave or other authorized work record system as sick leave or vacation leave based on the reason for the absence.
- Maintain and update their schedule on their Outlook calendar that describes their non-campus location (e.g., Work from remote location), as well as the best phone number to reach them.
- Agree to (complete and sign) the university Remote Work Participation Agreement, and any other departmental required forms.
- In the event of a campus or work site closure due to weather or other unscheduled event, employees who are scheduled to work remotely on the day of closure shall be prepared to perform their duties. Vacation leave may be requested if remote duties cannot be performed during the closure, unless otherwise guided by Campus leadership.
- If an accommodation is needed in order to perform the essential functions of an employee's job, the campus ADA Coordinator must be contacted and the Remote Work Agreement must be approved by the Chief Human Resources Officer (or designee).
- Some information used in work, such as that covered by HIPAA or FERPA, may be deemed confidential by CU Denver|Anschutz. Employees authorized to work



remotely or partially remotely must ensure that all university-required security safeguards and policies are in place at the same level as in the regular office in order to protect such information from unauthorized disclosure, loss, or damage.

- Travel between an employee's home and their designated "campus site" is considered part of an employee's normal commute and non-reimbursable. Remote employees who travel to campus for meetings, events or business will not be reimbursed for travel and/or parking. Standard University reimbursement rules apply for business travel.

### **Exceptions**

Exceptions to these guidelines must be approved by the Executive Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance (for CU Anschutz and CSA consolidated units), the Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration (for Denver units), the Provost or Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (for ASA units), and the cognizant Dean.

**APPENDIX B**



University of Colorado  
Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

**Alternative Work Schedule REQUEST FORM**

This arrangement is effective [DATE] through [DATE] unless terminated earlier.  
[EMPLOYEE NAME] understands and agrees to the conditions in this Alternative Work Schedule Approval Form.

Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Administrative Unit/School, Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Position is EXEMPT or NON-EXEMPT from overtime.

**Description of Flex Schedule Arrangement:**

Start of Workday:	
End of Workday:	

*Employee understands that the university, at its discretion, may alter or terminate the agreement at any time*

Agreed to by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
[EMPLOYEE NAME]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
[SUPERVISOR NAME]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

APPENDIX C



University of Colorado  
Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

**REMOTE WORK PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**

**Remote work** means an arrangement by which an employee works from a remote location other than the primary worksite, either for part of their schedule, or entirely. Participation is voluntary subject to the university’s approval. Participation is not an employee right or benefit, and may need to be discontinued for business reasons.

**Regular office** means the employee's usual and customary work address. It remains the primary work location even if participating in a remote work arrangement.

**EMPLOYEE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYEE ID#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**JUSTIFICATION NARRATIVE:**

Supervisor – Please attach a narrative explaining the reason for remote work, and the benefit to the university in agreeing to the arrangement.

**AGREEMENT:**

This Agreement goes into effect on \_\_\_\_\_, and remains in effect through (must include a date by which the arrangement will be reviewed) \_\_\_\_\_, unless terminated sooner by either party for any reason.

Participation in remote work does not change the employee's salary, benefits, work status or other rights as a university employee. The Employee agrees to follow the Employer's policies on work hours and schedules, including keeping records of time and attendance as if work was performed at the regular office.

- (1) If eligible for overtime, advance supervisory approval must be obtained before working overtime.
- (2) All types of leave usage must have supervisory approval and follow established leave rules and procedures.

The Employee will not provide primary care during work hours for a young child or elder who would otherwise require a provider's care [except for that authorized by the September 2, 2020 COVID-19 Addendum to the Alternative Work Arrangements Policy]. Formal care arrangements will be maintained during working hours at the alternate/remote location. Care provided during work hours will be requested and reported as sick or other applicable leave.

The university has the right to choose to purchase hard/software and related supplies (such as chairs), allow existing hard/software to be taken to the home, or permit use of compatible Employee-owned hard/software. The decision to remove or discontinue use of such hard/software and related supplies shall rest solely with the university. Equipment and supplies purchased by the university remain university property and their use is limited to the Employee for purposes of official university business.

If hardware/software or equipment is borrowed or purchased by the university, the university will maintain and service such hard/software and equipment. If Employee-owned, the Employee is responsible for service and maintenance. The university does not assume liability for loss, damage, or wear of Employee-owned hard/software or other equipment (such as chairs). The university will document all equipment purchased with university funds approved for use and located at off-site locations.

In the event of equipment failure or malfunction, employee will immediately notify their supervisor in order to effect repair or replacement of such equipment and to discuss work assignments. In the event of delay in repair or replacement, or any other circumstance which makes work from the remote location impossible, employee understands that the university may require the employee to report to the regular on-campus office.

Employee understands that the university may make on-site visits during normal business hours to determine that the work space is safe and to maintain, repair, install or retrieve university -owned equipment, software and/or supplies. All university-owned equipment, software, data and supplies must be returned to the unit location in event of termination of participation in Remote Work for any reason.

Employee understands they are responsible for operating costs, home maintenance or any other cost associated with the use of the home or other remote work site. The employee shall maintain the home or remote work space in a safe condition, free from hazards, thefts and other dangers to equipment or occupants of the remote work location.

Employee understands that they remain liable for injuries to third persons, including family members, at the alternate location. Employee agrees to hold harmless the university from any and all claims, demands or liability resulting from any injury to such third parties caused, directly or indirectly, by the duties and obligations under this Agreement, except where such claims or liability arise solely from the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Employer.

Employee understands the university is not liable for damages to the Employee's personal or real property except to the extent of liability under State of Colorado statute that applies to the regular office.

Employee is encouraged to notify their personal homeowner's/renter's liability insurance company regarding use of their home space as a remote working location.

A work plan with expected delivery dates has been mutually agreed upon.

Employee understands that injuries sustained by the employee in a remote office location and in conjunction with their regular work duties may be covered by the university's workers' compensation coverage. The employee must report work-related injuries immediately to the supervisor and comply with all university reporting requirements established for the purpose of reporting such claims found the University Risk Management Worker's Compensation website.

Employee understands that some information used in their work may be deemed confidential or sensitive by the University and shall apply all university-required security safeguards and policies at the same level as in the regular office in order to protect such information from unauthorized

disclosure, loss or damage. If employee must use a personal computer, it is recommended that remote desktop is used to connect to their university-provided computer. The employee must have, and maintain, VPN connectivity during work hours. Employee agrees to report any suspected information security incident as soon as possible to the OIT service desk.

Employee remains obligated to comply with all university policies and instructions and this Agreement. Violation of these may result in termination of participation in Remote Work and/or other corrective/disciplinary actions.

Employee understands that it may be necessary to alter the Remote Work Participation arrangement and/or report to work in emergencies or for other business needs.

The following specific conditions have been agreed upon by the Employee and Supervisor:

Principal department/college or university \_\_\_\_\_

Division or work unit \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate work location address \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate e-mail address, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Employee will work at a remote location \_\_\_\_\_ days per week or \_\_\_\_\_ days per month.

Work hours and schedule will be as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

The following equipment, software and supplied will be used at the alternate location:

\_\_\_\_\_ It will be provided by: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee agrees to be immediately available to answer phone calls real-time during their approved work hours. The following arrangement has been agreed upon for communications, including return and handling telephone calls, including long distance, e-mail and communicating with the regular office:

\_\_\_\_\_ Additional conditions agreed upon \_\_\_\_\_

We have read this Agreement and understand and agree to its conditions. We further understand that failure to adhere to these conditions may result in termination of Remote Work agreement or other corrective or disciplinary actions.

**Requested by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manager/Supervisor/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Approved by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Unit Vice Chancellor or Dean

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Refer to approval matrix) Provost/Dean/Vice Chancellor      Date      \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources or Designee      Date

\*Only required in cases of remote work as a medical/health accommodation or performance exceptions

**Agreed to by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employee Name/Signature      Date      \_\_\_\_\_

<b>School/College, Unit, Office, Location</b>	<b>First Level Approving Authority</b>	<b>Second Level Approving Authority*</b>
CU Denver Schools/Colleges	School/College Dean	N/A
CU Anschutz Medical Campus Schools/Colleges (except SOM)	School/College Dean	N/A
School of Medicine	Assistant Dean for Administration and Finance	N/A
Consolidated Units (OIT, HR, Inst. Planning, Facilities, Finance, Grants/OGC/Bursar)	Unit Vice Chancellor or Associate Vice Chancellor	Executive Vice Chancellor for Admin and Finance   CU Anschutz CFO
Police	Police Chief	
CU Anschutz units that report to Executive Vice Chancellor for Admin and Finance   CU Anschutz CFO	Unit Vice Chancellor or Associate Vice Chancellor	Executive Vice Chancellor for Admin and Finance   CU Anschutz CFO
CU Denver units that report to Senior Vice Chancellor for Admin and Finance   CU Denver CFO	Unit Vice Chancellor or Associate Vice Chancellor	Senior Vice Chancellor for Admin and Finance   CU Denver CFO
Advancement, Communications, CU Innovations, Office of Digital Education, VCR, VCHA, DEI, or other Chancellor Direct Reports	Unit Vice Chancellor or Associate Vice Chancellor	N/A
Institutional Research, Office of Equity, Ombuds, Strategic Enrollment and Student Success, Faculty Affairs, Libraries, Office of the Provost or EVC/Academic Officer	Unit Vice Chancellor or applicable Provost or EVC/Academic Officer or Designee	N/A
Regulatory Compliance: CCTSI, COMIRB, EH&S, HIPAA, IACUC, Research Admin, CRAO	Vice Chancellor for Research	N/A

- \*Approval by the Chief Human Resources Officer (or designee) must also be secured in cases of remote work as a medical/health accommodation or performance exceptions

**APPENDIX D  
COMPRESSED WORK SCHEDULE  
REQUEST FORM**

Effective \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employee Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
 Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

Check all boxes that apply:

Compressed Work Week:

- 4/10 schedule – ten hours per day for four days within a week (excl. lunch)
- 4 ½ day schedule - four nine hour days and one four-hour day within a week (excl. lunch)
- 9/80 schedule (four nine hour days and one eight hour day in one week/four nine hour days the following week, excl. lunch)
- Employee is overtime eligible\*
- Employee is not overtime eligible

<b>Work Schedule</b>					
	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
<i>Start Time</i>					
<i>Length of Meal Period</i>					
<i>End Time</i>					

***\*If overtime eligible employee is assigned to a 9/80 work schedule, adjustment to the defined work week must be approved by central Human Resources Compensation.***

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**APPENDIX E**



**Request to Redefine Workweek - Overtime-Eligible Employees**

The standard work week for the University of Colorado is 12:01 a.m. Sunday, through 12:00 midnight, the next Saturday. Any change in this work week for employees who are eligible for overtime requires approval by central HR Compensation before implementation.

Please complete and submit to [HR.Compensation@ucdenver.edu](mailto:HR.Compensation@ucdenver.edu)

Department Name

Employee Name/Employee ID#

Position #

Redefined work week (Note that 9/80 schedules must start at 12:01 pm and end at 12:00 pm)

Day \_\_\_\_\_

Time start: 12:01 pm

Time end: 12:00 pm

Example: Work week begins Friday at 12:01 p.m. and ends the following Friday at 12:00 pm

Overtime compensation will be earned if an employee earns more than 40 hours

Schedule change date (Note that the start date of the schedule must be the same day of the week as above)

Start date (mm/dd/yyyy)

End date (if applicable)

Signatures and date

Employee

Date

Supervisor

Date

HR APPROVAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date