

2025 ANNUAL COMPENSATION REVIEW FAQ

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FAQ

What does “MPEX” mean?

MPEX stands for Management, Professional and Excluded positions. Positions in this category are non-academic and non-unionized.

MPEX contracts can be either regular, term or casual. Regardless of the type of contract, no MPEX employee should be paid below the minimum of his/her grade.

MPEX is one of several employee groups within the University, each of which has a corresponding salary scale based on the relevant reference market.

Excluded positions are clerical positions which are not unionized as they have been “excluded” from the MUNACA union according to the definition of the bargaining unit.

The MPEX group is often known informally at McGill as the “Ms”.

What is the “midpoint”?

The midpoint represents 100 percent of the grade. The midpoint of each grade is aligned to the median of the market and represents the market value of the position. Midpoints are reliable indicators of market value.

In other words, if an employee is being paid at the midpoint of the scale, they are being paid what an autonomous performer who consistently reaches objectives would be paid on the market.

Because markets are moving targets, salaries within the “target zone” (see [What are the zones?](#)) are considered to be paid at market.

What is a compa-ratio?

The compa-ratio is the *percentage* obtained by dividing an employee’s annual salary by the midpoint of the salary grade for their position. Therefore, a salary equivalent to the midpoint of a grade represents 100% compa-ratio.

Compa-ratio is an important number in compensation because it is used to show the positioning of your salary within your grade, including which “zone” you are in (see [What do the zones mean?](#)).

How does the MPEX Salary Scale Work?

The salary scale is composed of twelve (12) grades grouped into four (4) levels. Each grade has a minimum, midpoint and maximum. Once the midpoints are established, the minimums and maximums of the scales are calculated as percentages of the midpoint. Therefore, when the midpoint changes, the minimums and maximums are usually adjusted accordingly.

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How was the MPEX Salary Scale designed?

The MPEX Salary Scale was designed by benchmarking pay practices against those of other organizations in a “market” with comparable positions that have similar responsibilities.

How and when is the MPEX Salary Scale Updated?

The salary scale is reviewed and may be adjusted annually to ensure continued alignment with the evolving market.

Effective June 1, 2025, the scale will be as follows:

Level	Grade	Min in % of the Mid	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum	Max in % of the Mid
Level 4	11	80%	\$141,880	\$177,350	\$218,400	123%
	10	80%	\$126,670	\$158,340	\$195,000	123%
	09	80%	\$113,100	\$141,380	\$174,110	123%
Level 3	08	80%	\$100,980	\$126,230	\$151,480	120%
	07	80%	\$90,170	\$112,710	\$135,250	120%
	06	80%	\$80,510	\$100,640	\$120,770	120%
Level 2	05	80%	\$71,890	\$89,860	\$107,830	120%
	04	80%	\$64,770	\$80,960	\$97,150	120%
Level 1	03	85%	\$61,990	\$72,930	\$83,870	115%
	02	85%	\$55,850	\$65,710	\$75,570	115%
Excluded	01	90%	\$53,280	\$59,200	\$68,080	115%
	01a	90%	\$47,990	\$53,320	\$61,320	115%

The range for Excluded positions is smaller (90% to 115%) because the learning and progression in these roles is faster. Employees at this level are expected to become autonomous quickly.

On the other hand, employees in Level 4 positions have a much broader salary range because the progression and evolution in these roles are much longer.

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What are the “zones”?

Each grade is made up of three zones:

ZONES	Range by compa-ratio	Description
Entry/Beginner – zone 1	< 95%	<i>Employee is new in the role and gaining experience but not yet fully autonomous in the job</i>
Target – zone 2	95% - 110%	<i>Employee meets all requirements of the role, shows consistent achievements and possesses key competencies (technical and behavioural)</i>
Exception – zone 3	≥ 110%	<i>Employee significantly and consistently exceeds role requirements, possesses high demand skills and/or is recognized as an expert in their field</i>

What do the “zones” mean?

The positioning of your salary in the scale (compa-ratio and corresponding zone) is based on your contribution, your performance, and your expertise. This is assessed by your Manager with the guidance of your Human Resources Advisor/Representative. There are guidelines to determine where an employee’s salary should be positioned:

- An employee who has been recently promoted (two years or less) is expected to be in *zone 1*.
- An employee who has been in the role for multiple years (approximately 5-7 years) and has been exceeding objectives (Significantly exceeds objectives or Exceeds objectives) for at least the past 3 years is expected to reach *zone 2* (95% compa-ratio or above).
- Employees whose salaries reach *zone 3* are an exception.

Performance is the main driver for progressing in the scale. Employees who are significantly exceeding objectives are expected to progress much faster than employees in the other categories.

It is normal for employees to require time to reach an optimal contribution zone. Managers are encouraged to regularly evaluate their employees’ contribution levels and promptly address any concerns by consulting with their HR representative. Together, they can develop an effective action plan to support employee growth and performance while considering internal equity. This can be achieved through a request for a Base Salary Adjustment or during the Internal Equity Assessment exercise.

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What happens if my current salary is below the new minimum?

Any increases in the context of the Annual Compensation Review (ACR) will be applied first. However, employees whose salaries are below their grade's new minimum as of June 1, 2025, following ACR, will be raised to the minimum of the grade.

Who is eligible for the 2025 Annual Compensation Review?

To be eligible for the 2025 Annual Compensation Review, staff must have started in a management or professional position, or an excluded position by December 31, 2024. As of 2025, temporary employees may be included in ACR.

In order to receive the salary increase, eligible employees must be active on the date of implementation.

What happens if I was on leave for part of 2024?

Per Quebec Labour Standards, employees on maternity/paternity/parental leave and short-term disability are entitled to the same wages and benefits as if they would have remained at work.

To receive the salary increase, there is a one-day-of-work rule. The one-day-of-work rule is based on the 18 months prior to the effective date of the Annual Compensation Review (i.e. January 1, 2024 to June 1, 2025).

1. Employees on maternity/paternity/parental leave or short-term disability who were active during this period are considered at work and should be given a performance assessment and category.
2. If, due to a maternity/paternity/parental leave or short-term disability, it is not possible to assess an incumbent's performance during the reference period, the salary increase attributed to performance will be calculated based on the average performance category of the last two years of active service.
3. If the incumbent has less than two years of active service, the assessment will be based on the period of active service.
4. "Not Applicable" can be used in the exceptional case where an employee's performance cannot be assessed. However, the performance increase should take into consideration the employee's positioning in the scale.

"Not Applicable" should ONLY be used if the incumbent was absent in ALL of 2023 AND 2024.

How is my increase calculated if I am in a temporary assignment?

Employees in a temporary assignment will receive their salary increase on their regular position. Their salary in the temporary assignment will then be recalculated accordingly.