

Attendance

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The Attendance Tracking module helps track employee time off. Although designed for monthly accrual of vacation, personal, and sick days, it can be used to manually track time off regardless of how often time is accrued. The Attendance module can be cross referenced with the Payroll module so that processing payroll can automatically make entries in the Attendance module when one or more attendance categories are used on the paycheck. This optional function may be linked to the payroll categories and therefore updated automatically as paychecks are processed.

A report is available to show the attendance information for employees. The Attendance Summary report is found at *Reports / Payroll / Employee*.

Activity

This lists the employees and allows changes to be made to each Attendance Category by selecting the employee and the category. Manual entries may be made at this screen. Positive or negative numbers are acceptable.

Select the employee, and choose a *Category* from the dropdown. On the next available line in the grid, enter a date in the *Date* column and the amount of time to be added in the *Days* column. The *Description* column is optional.

If any changes are made, click the **Save Activity** button.

If the activity was automatically updated from the processing of an employee paycheck, the paycheck number appears in the *Description* column.

Example: Adding time to an employee's vacation amount due because of comp time. To do this, select the employee, verify that the *Vacation* category is shown, then, on the next available line in the grid, enter a date in the *Date* column and the amount of comp time to be added in the *Units* column.

The *Description* column is optional. If any changes are made to this screen, choose **Save Activity**.

If the activity was automatically updated from the processing of an employee paycheck, the paycheck number appears in the *Description* column.

The screenshot shows the 'Attendance' software window with the 'Setup' tab selected. The window title is 'Attendance'. The tabs are 'Activity', 'Setup', 'Post Accruals', and 'Reset Balances'. The 'Employee Name' field is 'Carpenter, Tricia' and the 'Employee ID' is 'CarpTr'. The 'Employee ID' field is also 'CarpTr'. The 'Category' is 'Vacation' and the 'Balance' is '120.000'. The 'Active Only' radio button is selected. The 'Save Activity' button is visible. The 'Done' button is at the bottom right.

| | Date | Units | Description |
|---|------------|-------|------------------|
| 1 | 01/01/2019 | 160 | Vacation accrual |
| 2 | 04/10/2019 | -40 | PayCheck51873 |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | | | |
| 7 | | | |
| 8 | | | |

Setup

The amount of time that an employee accrues for each category is set up on the *Setup* tab. The *Months* column is a calculated number based on the *Hire Date* on the employee file. This represents the months of service. The *Vacation*, *Sick*, *Personal*, and *Other* columns may be set with the amount of time that is to be accrued per accrual period. This time may be entered in days or hours (however it has previously been tracked).

The *Pay Category Cross Reference* is the area that cross references the *Pay Category* with the *Attendance Category*. When one of these cross-referenced categories is used on the paycheck, an entry is written in the Attendance module.

How many payroll hours equal 1 attendance unit is the conversion factor that allows the attendance units to be entered in a unit other than hours. If the amounts on the *Setup* tab were entered in hours and the payroll is entered in hours, then this factor would be set as *1*. If the attendance is tracked in days but the employees are paid in hours, then this factor would be the number of hours that constitutes one day of vacation.

If any changes are made to the *Setup* tab, **Save Setup** must be selected to keep those changes.

| Units per Accrual Period | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------|----------|------|----------|-------|
| | Employee | Months | Vacation | Sick | Personal | Other |
| 1 | Tricia Carpenter | 22 | 160 | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | Abel Coleman | 22 | 80 | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Stephen Powers | 22 | 40 | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | Vivian Riley | 22 | 80 | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 | Terrel Thomas | 22 | 40 | 40 | 0 | 0 |

| Pay Category Cross Reference | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | Pay Category | Attendance Category |
| 1 | Salary | (None) |
| 2 | Hourly | (None) |
| 3 | Overtime | (None) |
| 4 | Vacation | Vacation |

How many payroll hours equal 1 attendance unit

Save Setup

Done

Post Accruals

This tab is used to add time to the *Activity* tab for any employee that has numbers on the *Setup* tab. Depending on how the company accrues time, this process may only be done once a year or may be done as often as necessary. Some accrue time annually, some monthly, and some even accrue every payroll. Agvance has the flexibility to accrue time as often as necessary.

To accrue time, enter the date, and select **Post Accruals**.

This process will create a positive accrual entry per category for each employee based on the employee's accrual amounts as set on the setup tab. This process was last performed on 01/01/2018.

Select Employees

Date of Accrual Entries

Done

- **Select Employees** – This allows the selection of employees who will have time accrued if necessary.
- **Classifications** – An Employee Classification may be used to easily select employees for the accrual. An Employee Classification might be set for *Eligible for Benefits* which would include only the full-time employees

and would not include part-time or seasonal help. By selecting this classification, only the full-time employees would have time added to their attendance information.

- **Date of Accrual Entries** – Select the date for the accrual entries. This date will appear in the *Date* column on the *Activity* tab.
- **Post Accruals** – Add time to the employee *Attendance Activity* tab for the selected employees based on the amounts entered at the *Setup* tab.

Reset Balances

Note: Before ending the attendance year, it is recommended to run the Attendance Summary report found at *Reports / Payroll / Employee*.

This is typically used at the beginning of a new year to clear out the prior year's activity from the *Activity* tab and set the beginning balances for the new attendance year.

A *Carry Forward Balance* option is available that uses the ending balance, deletes all the activity, and makes a *Beginning Balance* entry line.

The *Set all to specified days shown below* option allows a set amount to be set for all active employees.

Example: If four days of sick time are given per year to all employees and time off is tracked in days, then this option would be used with a 4 entered in the # *Units* field. Since ending the year would bring in the sick time for the start of the new year, there would be no need to have time entered in the *Sick* column on the *Setup* tab.

The screenshot shows the 'Attendance' application window with the 'Reset Balances' tab selected. A warning message states: 'This process will DELETE ALL ATTENDANCE ACTIVITY entries and immediately create one beginning of year detail entry for each employee for each attendance category. Each category can be set to either create a detail entry to carry forward the balance from the previous year or can be made to set all employees to the same number which you specify. You should perform this process BEFORE posting your first accrual of the new year and after all activity for the previous year has been entered.'

Below the warning, there are four columns for different attendance categories: Vacation, Sick, Personal, and Other. Each column has two radio button options: 'Carry Forward Balance' (selected) and 'Set all to specified days shown below'. Under the 'Set all to specified days shown below' option, there is a '# Units' input field.

At the bottom of the window, there are buttons for 'Select Employees', 'All', 'Select', 'Classifications', and 'Reset Balances'. A 'Balance Reset Date' field is set to '02/22/2021'. A 'Done' button is located at the bottom right.

- **Select Employees** – This allows the selection of employees who will have balances reset.
- **Classifications** – An Employee Classification may be selected to easily select employees for the balance reset. An Employee Classification might be set for *Eligible for Benefits* which would include only the full-time

employees and would not include part-time or seasonal help. By selecting this classification, only the full-time employees would have balances reset, therefore reducing the length of the report by not making entries on employees who are not eligible for benefits.

- **Balance Reset Date** – Enter the date for the reset. This typically would be the end or beginning of the year - either calendar or fiscal year depending on company policy. The Reset function creates an entry using this date with *Beginning Balance* in the comment.