TECHFIT
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who is eligible for the TechFit benefit?
A: All benefit eligible employees and their dependents as well as a Michigan Tech retiree who retired with 80 points of eligibility and the retiree’s spouse.

Q: What is the definition of a dependent?
A: A spouse or a dependent child under the age of 26

Q: What is the TechFit program and where do I go to learn more?
A: Eligible employees receive $150 per calendar year (January 1 to December 31) and $100 to be shared among eligible dependents, to use toward the purchase of an organized fitness membership. See Wellness for more information.

Q: Where can I find my TechFit balance?
A: Log into Banweb and navigate Employees/Benefits and Deductions/TechFit Information.

Q: Why is the TechFit benefit taxable?
A: Effective January 1, 2007, the Internal Revenue Services (IRS) requires Michigan Tech to tax the benefit upon use. The amount of benefit used will be taxed by the payroll office via your paycheck or for retirees a Form 1099 may be issued at year end.

Q: How much will I be taxed?
A: Taxes are based on your W4 and will be taxed as earnings.

Q: What is the TechFit Form and why is it necessary?
A: All employees using their TechFit benefit must complete the form because the Payroll office is required to obtain a signature in order to withhold taxes.

Q: Where can I find my employee “M” number?
A: The employee M number is unique to each employee and is printed on the Michigan Tech ID card. The “M” number can also be found at www.mynewid.mtu.edu

Q: Will my unused TechFit balance roll over into the next year?
A: The benefit renews annually on January 1, and unused funds from the prior year do not roll over.
Q: Both my spouse and I are benefit eligible employees at Michigan Tech. Can my spouse use my $100 dependent benefit in addition to her own $150 benefit?
A: No. Employees who are benefit eligible are not eligible to use the $100 dependent benefit because they have their own $150 benefit available.

Q: Both my spouse and I are benefit eligible employees at Michigan Tech. Do we each get a $100 dependent benefit to use for our child(ren)?
A: Yes, you may each use your $100 dependent benefit on your child(ren).

Q: How long can my children use the dependent benefit?
A: As long as your child(ren) are dependent on you and are under the age of 26, (proof of dependence may be requested by the Benefits Office.

Q: Do each of my eligible dependents receive the $100.00 benefit?
A: No. The $100 benefit is to be shared among eligible dependents.

Q: Is there a way the University will increase my TechFit balance?
A: Currently there are two ways to increase your balance. One is by participating in the Husky Paw program and the other is by participating in the Enhanced Health Risk Assessment (HRA) incentive program.

Q: How does the T2 incentive of the Enhanced HRA work in conjunction with TechFit?
A: T2 is a $200.00 incentive an employee can earn by meeting the requirements of the Enhanced HRA program. T2 funds can only be used by the eligible employee at a Michigan Tech facility. T2 in addition to TechFit can be used for eligible memberships.

Q: Where can I learn more about the Enhanced HRA Incentive Program?
A: Visit Wellness, or call Benefit Services at 487-2517.

Q: Can the TechFit dollars be used to pay marathon or race fees?
A: No. Competitive events or sports are not eligible expenses.

Q: Can I use my TechFit benefit to pay for home exercise equipment or running shoes?
A: No. TechFit is set up to be used at an organized class or for a membership. See TechFit Guidelines for specific details.

Q: Can I use my TechFit benefit to pay for ice rental for hockey?
A: No. TechFit is set up to be used at an organized class or for a membership. See TechFit Guidelines for specific details.
Q: **What is the minimum length of membership?**

A: Fitness classes or memberships must be a minimum of six weeks. TechFit does allow for punch passes or action passes be purchased at a minimum of six punches per card.

Q: **I live and work in another state or downstate Michigan. Am I eligible for TechFit?**

A: Yes. As long as the vendor is willing to mail a bill to Michigan Tech you may take advantage of the program. In some cases the employee may have to pay for the membership or class and submit the receipt for reimbursement. For more information contact Benefit Services at 906-487-2517.

Q: **How soon will the vendor be paid.**

A: Michigan Tech’s policy is net 30 days once the bill is received.

Q: **What if the vendor will not bill Michigan Tech?**

A: All local Houghton, Keweenaw, Baraga and Ontonagon County businesses and Michigan Tech facilities are required to send a bill to the Benefits office. Reimbursements to employees are not permitted unless the employee lives and works out of state or downstate.

Q: **Where should a vendor bill be sent and what should be included on the bill?**

A: Bills should be mailed to Benefit Services, Michigan Technological University, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931. The bill should include an invoice number, date of purchase, type of class or membership, cost and the employee or dependent name. In addition to the bill, the vendor will need to include a completed TechFit Wellness Form. Incomplete forms or missing information will result in delay of payment.

Q: **I am a retiree and do not know my employee “M” number what do I put on the form?**

A: A retiree who doesn’t know their M# should use your full name and include your date of birth on the TechFit form.

Q: **Can SDC day passes be used with TechFit?**

A: No.