

2024 Religious Holidays

* Some holy days (*) start at sundown of the evening of the listed start date and end at sundown or nightfall of the concluding listed date.

Some of these dates are not fixed to a calendar but based on the actual sighting of the moon and therefore there may be some variance by a day.

Date	Name	Description	Faith Tradition
January 1, 2024	Gantan-sai	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>Gantan-sai is the annual New Year festival of the Shinto religion. General Practices: Practitioners pray for inner renewal, prosperity, and health, as well as visiting shrines and visiting friends and family.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events and activities on this date (work holiday).</p>	Shinto
January 7, 2024	Eastern Orthodox Christmas/Feast of the Nativity	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Eastern Orthodox students & employees may request this day off.</p>	Eastern Orthodox Christian
February 10, 2024	Asian (Chinese) Lunar New Year	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>This festival marks the start of the new year in the lunar calendar used in East Asia, Southeast Asia and elsewhere.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities on this date. Many Chinese students & employees may request this day off.</p>	Confucian/Taoist /Buddhist
February 14, 2024	Ash Wednesday	<p>Ash Wednesday: a day of prayer and fasting that begins the Christian season of Lent</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Provide food accommodation as requested—prohibitions for some include animal products.</p>	Christian

February 14-March 28, 2024	Lenten Season	<p>Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter.</p> <p><i>Recommended Accommodations: Provide food accommodation as requested—for some meat (fish is not considered meat) is prohibited during meals.</i></p>	Christian (Protestant and Catholic)
March 1-March 19, 2024	Nineteen Day Fast*#	<p>The month of fasting, during which Bahá'ís from the age of 15 abstain from food and drink between sunrise and sunset.</p> <p><i>Recommended Accommodations: If possible, avoid scheduling major academic deadlines during this time. Be sensitive to the fact that students and employees celebrating will be fasting during the day (continuously for 19 days) and will likely have less stamina as a result. If planning an evening event, provide food accommodations if requested.</i></p>	Bahá'í
March 11-April 9, 2024	Ramadan (29-30 days)*#	<p>Muslims commemorate the revelation of the Qur'an, and fast from food and drink during the sunlit hours as a means of drawing closer to God and cultivating self-control, gratitude, and compassion for those less fortunate.</p> <p><i>Recommended Accommodations: If possible, avoid scheduling major academic deadlines during this time. Be sensitive to the fact that students and employees celebrating Ramadan will be fasting during the day (continuously for 30 days) and will likely have less stamina as a result. If planning an evening event, provide food accommodations if requested (Islamic dietary restrictions apply).</i></p>	Islamic

<p>March 18, 2024-May 4, 2024</p>	<p>Eastern Orthodox Great Lent</p>	<p>Great Lent (or the Great Fast) is the Orthodox Lenten season. The church's longest, strictest and most important fasting time. It runs from Clean Monday, seven weeks before Pascha, through Lazarus Saturday, the day before Palm Sunday.</p> <p><i>Recommended Accommodations: Orthodox employees and students are expected to abstain from meat, meat by-products, poultry, eggs, and dairy products for the entire Lenten period. If planning an event, provide food accommodations as requested.</i></p>	<p>Eastern Orthodox Christian</p>
<p>March 19, 2024-March 20, 2024</p>	<p>Naw Rúz</p>	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>This is the Baha'i New Year, a traditional celebration in Iran adopted as a holy day associated with Baha'i. It is a celebration of spring and new life.</p> <p>General Practices: Festive music dancing, prayers, meetings, meals</p> <p><i>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events and activities on this date (work holiday).</i></p>	<p>Bahá'í</p>
<p>March 23-March 24, 2024</p>	<p>Purim*</p>	<p>This festival commemorates the Divinely orchestrated salvation of the Jewish people in the ancient Persian Empire from Haman's plot to destroy the Jewish people in a single day.</p> <p><i>Recommended Accommodations: Purim is not subject to the restrictions on work that affect some other holidays; however, some sources indicate that Jews should not go about their ordinary business at Purim out of respect for the festival. If planning an evening event, provide food accommodations if requested (kosher basics).</i></p>	<p>Jewish</p>

<p>March 29, 2024</p>	<p>Good Friday</p>	<p>Good Friday—the Friday before Easter—is the day observed by the Christian church as the day of Christ’s crucifixion.</p> <p><i>Recommended Accommodations: Provide food accommodation as requested: some Christians may be fasting on this day or refraining from meal. Some may also request the day or afternoon off. Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events and activities on the date.</i></p>	<p>Christian</p>
<p>April 10, 2024</p>	<p>Eid al Fitr*#</p>	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>This holiday commemorates the completion of Ramadan and lasts for three days during which Muslims celebrate with special prayers, sweets, presents for children, and community festivities.</p> <p><i>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, or activities on this date. Students & employees will likely ask to take a vacation day on this day, and that request should be granted if at all possible. If planning an evening event, provide food accommodations if requested (Islamic dietary restrictions apply).</i></p>	<p>Islamic</p>
<p>April 22-April 30, 2024</p>	<p>Passover [Pesach-8 days]*</p>	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>Commemorates the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt.</p> <p><i>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events and activities on the first evening, the following two days, or the last two days of the holiday, provide food accommodation as requested (kosher restrictions apply—the use of leavening is prohibited so, for example, matzah is eaten in place of bread.)</i></p>	<p>Jewish</p>

May 3, 2024	Eastern Orthodox Holy Friday/Good Friday	<p>Friday before Easter, commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ; among some sects of Christianity and in many countries marks a day of fasting.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Many Orthodox Christians commemorate the day by attending numerous church services and strict fasting. Orthodox Christians usually refrain from doing much work on this day in remembrance of Christ's great sacrifice. Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events and activities on the date.</p>	Eastern Orthodox Christian
May 5-May 6 ,2024	Yom HaShoah	<p>Holocaust Remembrance Day</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: This is not a work holiday—academics and work are permitted. Provide food accommodation as requested (kosher basics).</p>	Jewish
May 23, 2024	Vesak	<p>Buddha's birth (Japanese tradition)</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Provide food accommodation as requested, and offer vegetarian options when planning menus for events on this date.</p>	Buddhist
June 11, 2024-June 13, 2024	Shavuot	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>Marks the giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events and activities on these days. (Kosher basics—although it is customary to eat dairy).</p>	Jewish

June 16, 2024	Eid al Adha*#	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction</p> <p>The holiday commemorates Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son, who was miraculously replaced by a lamb.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities on the first day. If planning an evening event, provide food accommodations if requested (Islamic dietary restrictions apply). Observers may request a vacation day.</p>	Islamic
Tuesday, July 16, 2024	Ashura (10th day of Muharram)*#	<p>This day marks the anniversary of the tragic martyrdom of Husayn, the Prophet's grandson, and many of his family members and companions. Ashura also marks the anniversary of the Exodus of Moses from Egypt.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Muslim students & employees may request a vacation day on this date but it is not universally commemorated as one of the two eids.</p>	Islamic
August 12, 2024-August 13, 2024	Fast of 9th of Av	<p>Tisha B'Av, the 9th day of the month of Av, is the culmination of the Three Weeks, a period of time during which we mark the destruction of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.</p> <p>Recommended accommodations: Plan limited activities after a fast.</p>	Jewish
August 24, 2024	Krishna Janmashtami	<p>Celebration of the birthday of Lord Krishna, the eighth Divine Incarnation</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling major academic deadlines on this day, since it is likely that students will be operating on very little sleep.</p>	Hindu
August 25, 2024	Arbaeen	<p>The day marking the end of the 40-day mourning period after the Day of Ashura for Muslims.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Muslim students & employees may request a vacation day on this date but it is not universally commemorated as one of the two eids.</p>	Islamic

Appx. September 15-16, 2024	Mawlid an-Nabi	<p>This holiday is the anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Muhammad.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Muslim students & employees may request a vacation day on this date but it is not universally commemorated as one of the two eids.</p>	Islamic
October 2-October 4, 2024	Rosh Hashanah*	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year. It is the anniversary of the creation of Adam and Eve, and a day of judgment and coronation of G-d as king.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events and activities on these days.</p>	Jewish
October 11-October 12, 2024	Yom Kippur*	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>Holiest day of the year, the Day of Atonement</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, or activities on this date and after a day of fasting.</p>	Jewish
October 16-October 23, 2024	Sukkot*	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>The seven days of Sukkot is the holiday in which there is dwelling in covered huts, commemorating G d's sheltering of the ancestors as they traveled from Egypt to the Promised Land.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, or activities on the first two days. If planning an event, provide food accommodation as requested (kosher basics).</p>	Jewish

October 23-October 25, 2024	Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah*	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>Celebrates Shemini Atzeret, the first day, and the second day, Simchat Torah. Simchat Torah marks the completion and beginning of the annual Torah reading cycle.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, or activities on this date. If planning an event, provide food accommodation as requested (kosher basics).</p>	Jewish
October 31, 2024	Deepavali/Diwali	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>A festival of new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, and activities on this date. Hindu students & employees will likely request a vacation day on this date.</p>	Jain/Sikh/Hindu
November 3, 2024	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>This holiday celebrates the birthday of Bahá'u'lláh, one of the Baha'i faith's most important figures. For Bahá'ís, the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh is a Holy Day celebrating the rebirth of the world through the love of God, just as Christmas is for Christians.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Avoid scheduling important academic deadlines, events, or activities on this date. (Baha'i students and employees will likely request to have this day off.)</p>	Bahá'í

December 25, 2024-January 2, 2025	Hanukkah [8-days]*	<p>Chanukah commemorates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after a group of Jewish warriors defeated the occupying mighty Greek armies.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: Academics and work permitted, not a work holiday. Provide food accommodation as requested (kosher restrictions apply—potato pancakes, doughnuts or other fried food is customary).</p>	Jewish
December 25, 2024	Christmas	<p>Holiday with significant work restriction.</p> <p>Christmas is the Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Recommended Accommodations: This is a national holiday in the United States, so special accommodations are likely not required.</p>	Christian