

sented by the Union, in writing, for arbitration within 15 days of the presentation of such grievance to the Commissioner of Labor Relations, and the arbitrator shall decide such grievance within 75 days of its presentation to the arbitrator. The party requesting such arbitration shall send a copy of such request to the other party. The costs and fees of such arbitration shall be borne equally by the Employer and the Union.

**SECTION 5. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE FOR PERMANENT COMPETITIVE EMPLOYEES**

In any case involving a grievance under Section 1 (e) of this Article, the following procedure shall govern upon service of written charges of incompetence or misconduct:

**STEP A** Following the service of written charges, a conference with such Employee shall be held with respect to such charges by the person designated by the agency head to review a grievance at STEP I of the Grievance Procedure set forth in this Agreement. The Employee may be represented at such conference by a representative of the Union. The person designated by the agency head to review the charges shall take any steps necessary to a proper disposition of the charges and shall issue a determination in writing by the end of the fifth day following the date of the conference.

If the Employee is satisfied with the determination in STEP A above, the Employee may choose to accept such determination as an alternative to and in lieu of a determination made pursuant to the procedures provided for in Section 75 of the Civil Service Law or the Rules and Regulations of the Health and Hospitals Corporation. As a condition of accepting such determination, the Employee shall sign a waiver of the Employee's right to the procedures available to him or her under Sections 75 and 76 of the Civil Service Law or the Rules and Regulations of the Health and Hospitals Corporation.

**STEP B (i)** If the Employee is not satisfied with the determination at STEP A above then the Employer shall proceed in accordance with the disciplinary procedures set forth in Section 75 of the Civil Service Law or the Rules and Regulations of the Health and Hospitals Corporation. As an alternative, the Union with the consent of the Employee may choose to proceed in accordance with the Grievance Procedure set forth in this Agreement, including the right to proceed to binding arbitration pursuant to STEP IV of such Grievance Procedure. As a condition for submitting the matter to the Grievance Procedure the Employee and the Union shall file a written waiver of the right to utilize the procedures available to the Employee pursuant to Sections 75 and 76 of the Civil Service Law or the Rules and Regulations of the Health and Hospitals Corporation or any other administrative or judicial tribunal, except for the purpose of enforcing an arbitrator's award, if any. Notwithstanding such waiver, the period of an Employee's suspension without pay pending hearing and determination of charges shall not exceed thirty (30) days.

**STEP B (ii)** If the election is made to proceed pursuant to the Grievance Procedure, an appeal from the determination of STEP A above, shall be made to the agency head or designated representative. The appeal must be made in writing within five (5) work days of the receipt of the determination. The agency head or designated representative shall meet with the Employee and the Union for review of the grievance and shall issue a determination to the Employee and the Union by the end of the tenth work day following the day on which the appeal was filed. The agency head or designated representative shall have the power to impose the discipline, if any, decided upon, up to and including termination of the accused Employee's employment. In the event of such termination or suspension without pay totaling more than thirty (30) days, the Union with the consent of the grievant may elect to skip STEP C of this Section and proceed directly to STEP D.

**STEP C** If the grievant is not satisfied with the determination of the agency head or designated representative the grievant or the Union may appeal to the Commissioner of Labor Relations in writing within ten (10) days of the determination of the agency head or designated representative. The Commissioner of Labor Relations shall issue a written reply to the grievant and the Union within fifteen (15) work days.

**STEP D** If the grievant is not satisfied with the determination of the Commissioner of Labor Relations, the Union with the consent of the grievant may proceed to arbitration pursuant to the procedures set forth in STEP IV of the Grievance Procedure set forth in this Agreement.

**SECTION 6. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE FOR NONCOMPETITIVE EMPLOYEES**

In any case involving a grievance under Section 1(f) of this Article, the following procedures shall govern upon service of written charges of incompetence or misconduct:

**STEP I** Following the service of written charges, a conference with such Employee shall be held with respect to such charges by the person designated by the agency head to review a grievance at STEP I of the Grievance Procedure set forth in this Agreement. The Employee may be represented at such conference by a representative of the Union. The person designated by the agency head to review the charges shall take any steps necessary to a proper disposition of the charges and shall issue a determination in writing by the end of the fifth day following the date of the conference.

**STEP II** If the Employee is dissatisfied with the determination in Step I above, he or she may appeal such determination. The appeal must be made within five (5) working days of the receipt of such determination. Such appeal shall be treated as a grievance appeal beginning with Step II of the Grievance Procedure set forth herein.

**SECTION 7. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE FOR PROVISIONAL EMPLOYEES**

In any case involving a grievance under Section 1(h) of this Article, the following procedure shall govern upon service of written charges of incompetence or misconduct:

**STEP A** Following the service of written charges, a conference with such Employee shall be held with respect to such charges by the person designated by the agency head to review a grievance at STEP I of the Grievance Procedure set forth in this Agreement. The Employee may be represented at such conference by a representative of the Union. The person designated by the agency head to review the charges shall take any steps nec-

essary to a proper disposition of the charges and shall issue a determination in writing by the end of the fifth day following the date of the conference.

**STEP B (i)** If the Employee is not satisfied with the determination at STEP A above, then the Employee may choose to proceed in accordance with the Grievance Procedure set forth in this Agreement through STEP III. The Union, with the consent of the Employee, shall have the right to proceed to binding arbitration pursuant to STEP IV of such Grievance Procedure. The period of an Employee's suspension without pay pending hearing and determination of charges shall not exceed thirty (30) days.

**STEP B (ii)** An appeal from the determination of STEP A above shall be made to the agency head or designated representative. The appeal must be made in writing within five (5) work days of the receipt of the determination. The agency head or designated representative shall meet with the Employee and the Union for review of the grievance and shall issue a determination to the Employee and the Union by the end of the tenth work day following the day on which the appeal was filed. The agency head or designated representative shall have the power to impose the discipline, if any, decided upon, up to and including termination of the accused Employee's employment. In the event of such termination or suspension without pay totaling more than thirty (30) days, the Union with the consent of the grievant may elect to skip STEP C of this Section and proceed directly to STEP D.

**STEP C** If the grievant is not satisfied with the determination of the agency head or designated representative the grievant or the Union may appeal to the Commissioner of Labor Relations in writing within ten (10) days of the determination of the agency head or designated representative. The Commissioner of Labor Relations shall issue a written reply to the grievant and the Union within fifteen (15) work days.

**STEP D** If the grievant is not satisfied with the determination of the Commissioner of Labor Relations, the Union with the consent of the grievant may proceed to arbitration pursuant to the procedures set forth in STEP IV of the Grievance Procedure set forth in this Agreement.

**SECTION 8. GROUP GRIEVANCES:**

A grievance concerning a large number of Employees and which concerns a claimed misinterpretation, inequitable application, violation or failure to comply with the provisions of this Agreement may be filed directly at STEP III of the grievance procedure except that a grievance concerning Employees of the Health and Hospitals Corporation may be filed directly at STEP II of the grievance procedure. Such "group" grievance must be filed no later than 120 days after the date on which the grievance arose, and all other procedural limits, including time limits, set forth in this Article shall apply. All other individual grievances in process concerning the same issue shall be consolidated with the "group" grievance.

**SECTION 9.**

If a determination satisfactory to the Union at any level of the Grievance Procedure is not implemented within a reasonable time, the Union may reinstitute the original grievance at STEP III of the Grievance Procedure; or if a satisfactory STEP III determination has not been so implemented, the Union may institute a grievance concerning such failure to implement at STEP IV of the Grievance Procedure.

**SECTION 10.**

If the Employer exceeds any time limit prescribed at any step in the Grievance Procedure, the grievant and/or the Union may invoke the next step of the procedure, except that only the Union may invoke impartial arbitration under STEP IV.

**SECTION 11.**

The Employer shall notify the Union in writing of all grievances filed by Employees, all grievance hearings, and all determinations. The Union shall have the right to have a representative present at any grievance hearing and shall be given forty-eight (48) hours' notice of all grievance hearings.

**SECTION 12.**

Each of the steps in the Grievance Procedure, as well as time limits prescribed at each step of this Grievance Procedure, may be waived by mutual agreement of the parties.

**SECTION 13.**

A non-Mayoral agency not covered by this Agreement but which employs Employees in titles identical to those covered by this Agreement may elect to permit the Union to appeal an unsatisfactory determination received at the last step of its Grievance Procedure prior to arbitration on fiscal matters only to the Commissioner of Labor Relations. If such election is made, the Union shall present its appeal to the Commissioner of Labor Relations in writing within ten (10) work days of the receipt of the last step determination. The Union should submit copies of the grievance filings at the prior steps of its Grievance Procedure and any agency responses thereto. Copies of such appeals shall be sent to the agency head. The Commissioner of Labor Relations, or the Commissioner's designee, shall review all such appeals and answer all such appeals within fifteen (15) work days. An appeal from a determination of the Commissioner of Labor Relations may be taken to arbitration under procedures, if any, applicable to the non-Mayoral agency involved.

**SECTION 14.**

The grievance and the arbitration procedures contained in this Agreement shall be the exclusive remedy for the resolution of disputes defined as "grievances" herein. This shall not be interpreted to preclude either party from enforcing the arbitrator's award in court. This Section shall not be construed in any manner to limit the statutory rights and obligations of the Employer under Article XIV of the Civil Service Law.