

# MASSACHUSETTS

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## Package Instructions:

1. Print the following PDF files in 8.5 x11 sheets of paper, unless otherwise specified use the color white.
2. The Federal OSHA poster must be printed in an 8 ½ x 14 sheet of paper to be in compliance.
3. Post the printed sheets in a place frequented by employees (i.e. lunch rooms, HR offices, employee lounges).
4. You may also distribute electronic copies of the Labor Law Notices to all relevant workstations in your facility.



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# FAIR EMPLOYMENT IN MASSACHUSETTS

**Applicants to and employees of private employers with 6 or more employees\*, state and local governments, employment agencies and labor organizations are protected under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 151B from discrimination on the following bases:**

## **RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE, SEX, GENDER IDENTITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENETIC INFORMATION, ANCESTRY, MILITARY SERVICE**

M.G.L. c. 151B protects applicants and employees from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, compensation, benefits, training, classification and other aspects of employment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin (including unlawful language proficiency requirements), age (if you are 40 years old or older), sex (including pregnancy), gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, ancestry, and military service. Religious discrimination includes failing to reasonably accommodate an employee's religious practices where the accommodation does not impose an undue hardship.

## **HARASSMENT**

Sexual harassment includes sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when (a) submission to or rejection of such advances, requests or conduct is made explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment or as a basis for employment decisions; (b) such advances, requests or conduct have the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a person's work performance by creating an intimidating, hostile, humiliating or sexually offensive work environment. ***The law also prohibits harassment based on the protected classes set forth above.***

## **PARENTAL LEAVE**

The law requires employers to grant an employee who has completed an initial probationary period and has given two (2) weeks' notice of the anticipated date of departure and the employee's intention to return, at least eight (8) weeks of paid or unpaid leave for the purpose of childbirth, adoption of a child under 18, or adoption of a child under 23 years old if the child has a mental or physical disability.

## **DISABILITY**

M.G.L. c. 151B prohibits discrimination the basis of disability, a record of disability or perceived disability, in hiring, promotion, discharge, compensation, benefits, training, classification and other aspects of employment. Disability discrimination may include failing to reasonably accommodate an otherwise qualified person with a disability.

## **RETALIATION**

It is illegal to retaliate against any person because s/he has opposed any discriminatory practices or because s/he has filed a complaint, testified, or assisted in any proceeding before the Commission. It is also illegal to aid, abet, incite, compel or coerce any act forbidden under M.G.L. c. 151B, or attempt to do so.

## **DOMESTIC WORKERS**

M.G.L. c. 151B prohibits discrimination and harassment against certain domestic workers where the employer has one (1) or more employee.\* While some exclusions apply, domestic workers generally include individuals paid to perform work of a domestic nature within a household on a regular basis, such as housekeeping, housecleaning, nanny services, and/or caretaking. Employers are prohibited from engaging in sexual harassment and harassment and/or discrimination based on the protected classes described above, i.e. race, color, etc. Domestic workers are also entitled to parental leave.

## **CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRIES**

The law prohibits employers from asking applicants on an initial employment application for any criminal background information unless an exemption by statute or regulation exists.

## **MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY ADMISSION INQUIRIES**

Employers may not refuse to hire or terminate an employee for failing to furnish information regarding his/her admission to a facility for the care and treatment of mentally ill persons. An employment application may not seek information about an applicant's admission to such a facility.

## **IF YOU HAVE BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST**

If you feel you have been harassed or discriminated against, you should immediately file a charge of discrimination with the **Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination**, [www.mcad.gov](http://www.mcad.gov), at one of the offices below.

***An agreement with your employer to arbitrate your discrimination claim(s) does not bar you from filing a charge of discrimination.***

Boston Office: 1 Ashburton Pl., Suite 601, Boston, MA 02108 – P: 617-994-6000 F: 617-994-6024

New Bedford Office: 800 Purchase St., Room 501, New Bedford, MA 02740 – P: 508-990-2390 F: 508-990-4260

Springfield Office: 436 Dwight St., Room 220, Springfield, MA 01103 – P: 413-739-2145 F: 413-784-1056

Worcester Office: 484 Main St., Room 320, Worcester, MA 01608 – P: 508-453-9630 F: 508-755-3861

For more information, please see our website: [www.mass.gov/mcad/](http://www.mass.gov/mcad/)

# EARNED SICK TIME

## Notice of Employee Rights

Beginning July 1, 2015, Massachusetts employees have the right to earn and take sick leave from work.

### WHO QUALIFIES?

**All employees** in Massachusetts can earn sick time.

This includes full-time, part-time, temporary, and seasonal employees.

### HOW IS IT EARNED?

- Employees earn 1 hour of sick time for every 30 hours they work.
- Employees can earn and use up to **40 hours per year** if they work enough hours.
- Employees with unused earned sick time at the end of the year can **rollover up to 40 hours**.
- Employees **begin earning** sick time on their first day of work and **may begin using** earned sick time 90 days after starting work.

### WILL IT BE PAID?

- If an employer has 11 or more employees, sick time must be paid.
- For employers with 10 or fewer employees, sick time may be unpaid.
- Paid sick time must be paid on the same schedule and at the same rate as regular wages.

### WHEN CAN IT BE USED?

- An employee can use sick time when the employee or the employee's child, spouse, parent, or parent of a spouse is sick, has a medical appointment, or has to address the effects of domestic violence.
- The smallest amount of sick time an employee can take is one hour.
- Sick time cannot be used as an excuse to be late for work without advance notice of a proper use.
- Use of sick time for other purposes is not allowed and may result in an employee being disciplined.

### CAN AN EMPLOYER HAVE A DIFFERENT POLICY?

Yes. Employers may have their own sick leave or paid time off policy, so long as employees can use at least the same amount of time, for the same reasons, and with the same job-protections as under the Earned Sick Time Law.

### RETALIATION

- Employees using earned sick time cannot be fired or otherwise retaliated against for exercising or attempting to exercise rights under the law.
- Examples of retaliation include: denying use or delaying payment of earned sick time, firing an employee, taking away work hours, or giving the employee undesirable assignments.

### NOTICE & VERIFICATION

- Employees must **notify** their employer before they use sick time, except in an emergency.
- Employers may require employees to **use a reasonable notification system** the employer creates.
- If an employee is out of work for 3 consecutive days **OR** uses sick time within 2 weeks of leaving his or her job, an employer may require documentation from a medical provider.

### DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

Call the Fair Labor Division at 617-727-3465 ○ Visit [www.mass.gov/ago/earnedsicktime](http://www.mass.gov/ago/earnedsicktime)



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Office of the Attorney General  
English - July 2016

**The Attorney General enforces the Earned Sick Time Law and regulations.**

It is unlawful to violate any provision of the Earned Sick Time Law.

Violations of any provision of the Earned Sick time law, M.G.L. c. 149, §148C, or these regulations, 940 CMR 33.00 shall be subject to paragraphs (1), (2), (4), (6) and (7) of subsection (b) of M.G.L. c. 149, §27C(b) and to §150.

**This notice is intended to inform.**

**Full text of the law and regulations are available at [www.mass.gov/ago/earnedsicktime](http://www.mass.gov/ago/earnedsicktime).**



# Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination



## PARENTAL LEAVE

An Act Relative to Parental Leave expands the current maternity leave law, G.L. c. 149, § 105D, which is enforced by the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD). Currently, Massachusetts law requires employers with six or more employees to provide eight weeks of unpaid maternity leave for the purpose of giving birth or for the placement of a child under the age of 18, or under the age of 23 if the child is mentally or physically disabled, for adoption. The new law goes into effect on April 7, 2015 and expands the current leave law in the following ways:

The parental leave law is now gender neutral. Both men and women are entitled to parental leave.

If the employer agrees to provide parental leave for longer than 8 weeks, the employer must reinstate the employee at the end of the extended leave unless it clearly informs the employee in writing before the leave and before any extension of that leave, that taking longer than 8 weeks of leave shall result in the denial of reinstatement or the loss of other rights and benefits.

The law clarifies that the right to leave applies to employees who have completed an initial probationary period set by the terms of employment, but which is not greater than 3 months.

The law provides that if two employees of the same employer give birth to or adopt the same child, the two employees are entitled to an aggregate of 8 weeks of leave.

The law clarifies that an employee seeking leave must provide at least 2 weeks' notice of the anticipated date of departure and the employee's intention to return, but also permits the employee to provide notice as soon as practicable if the delay is for reasons beyond the employee's control.

The law clarifies that an employee on parental leave for the adoption of a child shall be entitled to the same benefits offered to an employee on leave for the birth of a child.

The law expands the notice requirements, mandating that employers keep a posting in a conspicuous place describing the law's requirements and the employer's policies as to parental leave.

**Boston:** One Ashburton Place, Room 601, Boston, MA 02108; 617-994-6000

**Springfield:** 436 Dwight Street, Room 220, Springfield, MA 01103; 413-739-2145

**Worcester:** 484 Main Street, Room 320, Worcester, MA 01608; 508-453-9630

**New Bedford:** 800 Purchase, Room 501, New Bedford, MA 02740; 508-990-2390

Visit our website for more resources and instructions on filing a complaint: [www.mass.gov/mcad](http://www.mass.gov/mcad)

# Notice of Benefits Available Under M.G.L. Chapter 175M

## Paid Family and Medical Leave

### Beginning on October 1, 2019:

- Employers will deduct payroll contributions from a covered individual's wages or other earnings to fund PFML benefits.

### Beginning on January 1, 2021:

- Covered individuals may be entitled to up to 20 weeks of paid medical leave in a benefit year if they have a serious health condition that incapacitates them from work.
- Covered individuals may be entitled to up to 12 weeks of paid family leave in a benefit year related to the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of a child, or because of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that a family member is on active duty or has been notified of an impending call to active duty in the Armed Forces.
- Covered individuals may be entitled to up to 26 weeks of paid family leave in a benefit year to care for a family member who is a covered service member with a serious health condition.

### Beginning on July 1, 2021:

- Covered individuals may be entitled to up to 12 weeks of paid family leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition.

**Covered individuals are eligible for no more than 26 total weeks, in the aggregate, of paid family and medical leave in a single benefit year.**

### Who is a Covered Individual Under the Law?

Generally, a worker qualifies as a covered individual and may be eligible for paid family and medical leave if:

- S/he is paid wages by a Massachusetts employer; or
- S/he resides in Massachusetts and is paid for contract services by a Massachusetts entity that is required to report payment for services on IRS Form 1099-MISC for more than 50 percent of its workforce; or
- S/he is a self-employed individual who resides in Massachusetts and chooses to opt-in to the program.

### Job Protection

Generally, an employee who has taken paid family or medical leave must be restored to the employee's previous position or to an equal position, with the same status, pay, employment benefits, length-of-service credit, and seniority as of the date of leave.

*These job protections do not apply to contractors.*

### Weekly Benefits

To fund PFML benefits, employers will deduct payroll contributions from a covered individual's wages or other earnings beginning on Oct. 1, 2019. Covered individuals can apply for benefits beginning in January 2021 through the Department of Family and Medical Leave. A covered individual's average weekly earnings will determine his or her benefit amount, for a maximum weekly benefit of up to \$850.

### No Retaliation or Discrimination

- It is unlawful for an employer to discriminate or retaliate against an employee for exercising any right to which s/he is entitled under the law.
- An employee or former employee who is discriminated or retaliated against for exercising rights under the law may, not more than three years after the violation occurs, institute a civil action in the superior court, and may be entitled to damages of as much as three times his or her lost wages.

### Private Plans

If an employer offers employees paid family leave, medical leave, or both, with benefits that are at least as generous as those provided under the law, the employer may apply for an exemption from paying the contributions. Employees continue to be protected from discrimination and retaliation under the law even when an employer opts to provide paid leave benefits through a private plan.



**If you have questions or concerns about your Paid Family and Medical Leave rights, please contact: [MassPFML@Mass.gov](mailto:MassPFML@Mass.gov) or visit: <https://www.mass.gov/DFML>**

This notice must be posted in a conspicuous place on the employer's premises.

# Massachusetts Wage & Hour Laws



Office of Massachusetts  
Attorney General  
Maura Healey



**Fair Labor Hotline**  
(617) 727-3465  
TTY (617) 727-4765



[www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor](http://www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor)

State law requires all employers to post this notice at the workplace in a location where it can easily be read.  
**M.G.L. Chapter 151, Section 16;**  
**454 C.M.R. 27.07(1)**

## Minimum Wage

M.G.L. Chapter 151, Sections 1, 2, 2A, and 7

In Massachusetts, all workers are presumed to be employees. The minimum wage applies to **all** employees, except:

- agricultural workers (\$8.00 per hour is the minimum wage for most agricultural workers),
- members of a religious order,
- workers being trained in certain educational, nonprofit, or religious organizations, and
- outside salespeople.

Effective Date	Minimum Wage	Service Rate
January 1, 2017	\$11.00	\$3.75
January 1, 2019	\$12.00	\$4.35
January 1, 2020	\$12.75	\$4.95
January 1, 2021	\$13.50	\$5.55
January 1, 2022	\$14.25	\$6.15
January 1, 2023	\$15.00	\$6.75

## Tips

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 152A; M.G.L. Chapter 151, Section 7

The hourly "service rate" applies to workers who provide services to customers and who make more than \$20 a month in tips.

The average hourly tips, plus the hourly service rate paid to the worker must add up to the minimum wage (or more).

Managers, supervisors and owners must never take any part of their employees' tips.

Tips and service charges listed on a bill must be given only to wait staff, service bartenders, or other service employees.

Tip pooling is allowed only for wait staff, service bartenders, and other service employees.

## Overtime

M.G.L. Chapter 151, Sections 1A and 1B

Generally, employees who work more than 40 hours in any week must be paid overtime. Overtime pay is at least 1.5 x the regular rate of pay for each hour worked over 40 hours in a week.

For some employees who get paid the "service rate," the overtime rate is 1.5 x the basic minimum wage, *not* the service rate.

*Exception:* Under state law, some jobs and workplaces are exempt from overtime. For a complete list of overtime exemptions, visit [www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor](http://www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor) or call the Attorney General's Fair Labor Division at (617) 727-3465.

## Payment of Wages

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 148; 454 C.M.R. 27.02

The law says when, what, and how employees must be paid. An employee's pay (or wages) includes payment for all hours worked, including tips, earned vacation pay, promised holiday pay, and earned commissions that are definitely determined, due and payable.

Hourly employees must be paid every week or every other week (bi-weekly). The deadline to pay is 6 or 7 days after the pay period ends, depending on how many days an employee worked during one calendar week.

Employees who *quit* must be paid in full on the next regular payday or by the first Saturday after they quit (if there is no regular payday). Employees who are *fired* or *laid off* must be paid in full on their last day of work.

## Paystub Information

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 148

All employees must get a statement, at no cost, with their pay that says the name of the employer and employee, the date of payment (month, day, and year), the number of hours worked during the pay period, the hourly rate, and all deductions or increases made during the pay period.

## Pay Deductions

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 148; 454 C.M.R. 27.05

An employer cannot deduct money from an employee's pay unless the law allows it (such as state and federal income taxes), or the employee asked for a deduction to be made for the employee's own benefit (such as to put money aside in the employee's savings account).

An employer cannot take money from an employee's pay for the employer's ordinary business costs (for example: supplies, materials or tools needed for the employee's job). An employer who requires an employee to buy or rent a uniform must refund the actual costs to the employee.

The law also puts limits on when and how much money an employer can take from an employee's pay for housing and meals the employer gives to the employee.

## Hours Worked

454 C.M.R. 27.02

Hours worked or "working time" includes all time that an employee must be on duty at the employer's worksite or other location, and works before or after the normal shift to complete the work.

## Meal Breaks

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Sections 100 and 101

Most employees who work more than 6 hours must get a 30-minute meal break. During their meal break, employees must be free of all duties and free to leave the workplace. If, at the request of the employer, an employee agrees to work or stay at the workplace during the meal break, the employee must get paid for that time.

## Payroll Records

M.G.L. Chapter 151, Section 15

Payroll records must include the employee's name, address, job/occupation, amount paid each pay period, and hours worked (each day and week).

Employers must keep payroll records for 3 years. Employees have the right to see their own payroll records at reasonable times and places.

## Employees Under 18 – Child Labor

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Sections 56 – 105

All employers in Massachusetts must follow state and federal laws for employees who are under 18 (minors). These laws say *when*, *where*, and *how long* minors may work. They also say what kinds of work or tasks minors must NOT do.

**Work Permits Required – Most workers under 18 must obtain a work permit. Employers must keep their minor workers' work permits on file at the worksite. To get a work permit, the minor must apply to the superintendent of the school district where the minor lives or goes to school. To learn more about getting a work permit, contact the Department of Labor Standards at (617) 626-6975, or [www.mass.gov/dols](http://www.mass.gov/dols).**

## Dangerous Jobs & Tasks Minors Must Not Do

Age	Must Not
16 & 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drive most motor vehicles or forklifts</li><li>• Work at a job that requires that the employee have or use a firearm</li><li>• Use, clean or repair certain kinds of power-driven machines</li><li>• Handle, serve, or sell alcoholic beverages</li><li>• Work 30 or more feet off of the ground</li></ul>
14 & 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cook (except on electric or gas grills that do not have open flames), operate fryolators, rotisseries, NIECO broilers, or pressure cookers</li><li>• Operate, clean or repair power-driven food slicers, grinders, choppers, processors, cutters, and mixers</li><li>• Work in freezers or meat coolers</li><li>• Perform any baking activities</li><li>• Work in or near factories, construction sites, manufacturing plants, mechanized workplaces, garages, tunnels, or other risky workplaces</li></ul>
Under 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minors under 14 cannot work in Massachusetts in most cases.</li></ul>

**These are just some examples** of tasks prohibited under both state and federal law. For a complete list of prohibited jobs for minors, contact the Attorney General's Fair Labor Division: (617) 727-3465 • [www.mass.gov/ago/youthemployment](http://www.mass.gov/ago/youthemployment). Or contact the U.S. Department of Labor: (617) 624-6700 • [www.youth.dol.gov](http://www.youth.dol.gov)

## Sick Leave

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 148C

Most employees have the right to earn 1 hour of sick leave for every 30 hours they work, and they may earn and take up to 40 hours of sick leave a year. Employees begin accruing sick time on their first day of work. Employees must have access to their sick leave 90 days after starting work.

Eligible employees may use their sick leave if they or their child, spouse, parent, or spouse's parent is sick, injured, or has a routine medical appointment. They may also use sick leave for themselves or their child to address the effects of domestic violence.

Unless it is an emergency, employees must notify the employer before using sick leave.

Employees who miss more than 3 days in a row may need to provide their employer a doctor's note.

## Paid Sick Leave

Employers with 11 or more employees *must* provide paid sick leave. Employers with fewer than 11 employees must provide sick leave; however, it does not need to be paid.

## Employers Must Not Discriminate

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 105A; M.G.L. Chapter 151B, Section 4

Subject to certain limited exceptions, employers must not pay one employee less for doing the same or comparable work as another employee of a different gender.

They must not discriminate in hiring, pay or other compensation, or other terms of employment based on a person's:

- Race or color
- Religion, national origin, or ancestry
- Sex (including pregnancy)
- Military service
- Sexual orientation or gender identity or expression
- Genetic information or disability
- Age

## Small Necessities Leave

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 52D

In some cases, employees have the right to take up to 24 hours unpaid leave every 12 months for their:

- child's school activities,
- child's doctor or dentist appointment, or
- elderly relative's doctor or dentist appointments, or other appointments.

Employees are eligible for this leave if the employer has at least 50 employees and the employee has:

- been employed for at least 12 months by the employer and
- worked at least 1,250 hours for the employer during the previous 12-month period.

## Reporting Pay

454 C.M.R. 27.04(1)

Most employees must be paid for 3 hours at no less than minimum wage if the employee is scheduled to work 3 or more hours, and reports to work on time, and is not given the expected hours of work.

## Rights of Temporary Workers

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 159C

To learn about rights of temporary workers and employees hired through staffing agencies, call: 617-626-6970 or go to: [www.mass.gov/dols](http://www.mass.gov/dols).

## Rights of Domestic Workers

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 190

To learn about additional rights for workers who provide housekeeping, cleaning, childcare, cooking, home management, elder care, or similar services in a household, go to [www.mass.gov/ago/DW](http://www.mass.gov/ago/DW).

## Public Works and Public Construction Workers

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 26-27H

Workers who work on public construction projects and certain other public work must be paid the prevailing wage, a minimum rate set by the Department of Labor Standards based on the type of work performed.

## Domestic Violence Leave

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 52E

Employees who are victims, or whose family members are victims, of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or kidnapping have the right to 15 days of leave for related needs, such as health care, counseling, and victims services; safe housing; care and custody of their children; and legal help, protective orders, and going to court.

The leave can be paid or unpaid depending on the employer's policy. This law applies to employers with 50 or more employees.

## Employees Have the Right to Sue

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 150; M.G.L. Chapter 151, Sections 1B and 20

Employees have the right to sue their employer for most violations of wage and hour laws.

Employees may sue as an individual or they may sue their employer as a group if they have similar complaints. Employees who win their case will receive back pay, triple damages, attorneys' fees, and court costs.

**Important!** There are strict deadlines for starting a lawsuit. For most cases, the deadline is 3 years after the violation.

## Employers Must Not Retaliate

M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 148A; M.G.L. Chapter 151, Section 19

It is against the law for an employer to punish or discriminate against an employee for making a complaint or trying to enforce the rights explained in this poster.

The laws explained in this poster apply to all workers, regardless of immigration status, including undocumented workers. If an employer reports or threatens to report a worker to immigration authorities because the worker complained about a violation of rights, the employer can be prosecuted and/or subject to civil penalties.

## Time & Schedule Restrictions for Minors

Age	Must not work	At any time:
16 & 17	<p>At <b>night</b>, from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. (or past 10:15 if the employer stops serving customers at 10 p.m.)</p> <p><i>Exception:</i> On non-school nights, may work until 11:30 p.m. or until midnight, if working at a restaurant or racetrack.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More than <b>9 hours</b> per day</li><li>• More than <b>48 hours</b> per week</li><li>• More than <b>6 days</b> per week</li></ul>
14 & 15	<p>At <b>night</b>, from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. <i>Exception:</i> In summer (July 1 – Labor Day), may work until 9 p.m.</p> <p><b>During the School Year:*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• During school hours</li><li>• More than <b>3 hours</b> on any school day</li><li>• More than <b>18 hours</b> during any week</li><li>• More than <b>8 hours</b> on any weekend or holiday</li></ul>	<p><b>When school is not in session:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More than <b>8 hours</b> on any day</li><li>• More than <b>40 hours</b> per week</li><li>• More than <b>6 days</b> per week</li></ul>

\**Exception:* For school-approved career or experience-building jobs, students may be allowed to work during the school day, up to 23 hours a week.

**Adult Supervision Required After 8 p.m. - After 8 p.m., all minors must be directly supervised by an adult who is located in the workplace and is reasonably accessible.** *Exception:* Adult supervision is not required for minors working at a kiosk or stand in a common area of an enclosed shopping mall that has security from 8 p.m. until the mall closes.

**Contact the Attorney General's Fair Labor Division: (617) 727-3465 – [www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor](http://www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor)**



# RIGHT TO KNOW WORKPLACE NOTICE

The **RIGHT TO KNOW LAW, Chapter 111F** of the Massachusetts General Laws, provides rights to Public Sector employees\* regarding the communication of information on toxic and hazardous substances. These rights include:

**WORKPLACE NOTICE-** A notice must be posted in a central location in the workplace informing employees of their rights under the law. The notice must be in the English language. In workplaces where employees' first language is other than English, the notice must be posted in that language.

**TRAINING-** Employers must provide an annual training program to employees who work with toxic or hazardous substances. New employees must receive training within thirty days from date of hire. The training program must be conducted by a competent person and may be in the form of verbal and/or written instruction. At a minimum, training must include an explanation of employee rights, information on how to read an MSDS, the specific hazards of the chemicals used, handled or stored in the workplace, the type of personal protective equipment to be worn, and information on labeling of hazardous substances. This training must be done with pay during the employee's normal work shift or work hours. The employer must maintain a record of this training.

**MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET (MSDS)-** The Material Safety Data Sheet is the document that provides information on each toxic or hazardous substance used or stored in the workplace. An employee or his or her designated representative has the right to obtain and examine the MSDS for any toxic or hazardous substance to which the employee "is, has been, or may be", exposed, if the employee's request is made to the employer in writing. After four working days from the date the request is made, an employee can refuse to work with the substance under two circumstances:

1. The employer fails to: (a) furnish the employee with the MSDS and (b) furnish the employee with proof that the employer has exercised diligent effort to obtain the MSDS, either through the manufacturer or through the Commissioner of the Division of Occupational Safety, or,
2. The MSDS provided by the employer is incomplete or outdated.

**LABELING-** All containers in the workplace of more than five pounds or more than one gallon, containing toxic or hazardous substances, must be labeled with the chemical name of the substance. Containers of mixtures must be labeled with the chemical name of each toxic or hazardous constituent when the constituents comprise one percent or more of the mixture. Containers must also be labeled with the appropriate National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) symbol if available. Labels must be clear, prominent, in English and weather resistant. There are some exceptions to the labeling requirements for containers which are labeled in accordance with certain Federal laws.

**NON-DISCRIMINATION-** An employee who believes he or she has been discharged, disciplined, or in any other manner discriminated against by an employer for exercising rights granted under the Law, has one hundred eighty days following the violation of the Law or following the date on which he or she obtained knowledge that a violation occurred, to file a complaint with the Commissioner of the Division of Occupational Safety. A copy of the complaint must be sent to the employer at the same time by certified mail.

**NOTE-** The employee rights listed above are further defined in Chapter 111F of the Massachusetts General Laws and the Code of Massachusetts Regulations 454 CMR 21.00. Copies of the law and regulation can be obtained at the Statehouse Bookstore (617-727-2834).

All Right-to Know Inquiries should be addressed to:  
Department of Labor Standards  
19 Staniford Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02114  
Tel.: 617-626-6975

\*Private sector employees in Massachusetts are covered by a similar regulation, the Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200), enforced by the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA 617-565-9860).



# Information on Employees' Unemployment Insurance Coverage

Employer name

Employer DUA ID #

Address

Employees of this business or organization are covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI), a program financed entirely by Massachusetts employers. No deductions are made from your salary to cover the cost of your Unemployment Insurance benefits.

If you lose your job, you may be entitled to collect Unemployment Insurance. Outlined below is the information you need in order to apply for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits. Before you file, your employer will give you a copy of the pamphlet: *How to Apply for Unemployment Insurance Benefits*, provided by the Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA).

**You must be in the United States, its territories, or Canada when filing a claim or certifying for weekly UI benefits.**

## There are two ways to apply for UI Benefits:



### Apply by Using UI Online

UI Online is a secure, easy-to-use, self-service system. You can apply for benefits, reopen an existing claim, request weekly benefit payments, check your claim status, sign up for direct deposit, update your address, and even file an appeal online. To apply for benefits using UI Online, go to [www.mass.gov/dua](http://www.mass.gov/dua), and select *UI Online for Claimants*, and complete the required information to submit your application.



### Apply by calling the TeleClaim Center

Unemployment Insurance services are available by telephone. You can apply for Unemployment Insurance benefits, reopen a current claim, obtain up-to-date information on the status of your claim and benefit payment, resolve problems, and sign up for direct deposit — all by telephone. To apply for benefits by telephone, call the TeleClaim Center at 1-877-626-6800 from area codes 351, 413, 508, 774, and 978; or 1-617-626-6800 from any other area code. You will be asked to enter your Social Security Number and the year you were born. You will then be connected to an agent who will take the information necessary to file your claim.

Note: During peak periods from Monday through Thursday, call scheduling may be implemented, providing priority for callers based on the last digit of their Social Security Number. This helps ensure that you and others can get through to the TeleClaim Center in a timely manner. Please check the schedule on the right before calling.

If the last digit of your Social Security Number is:	Assigned day to call Teleclaim is:
0, 1	Monday
2, 3	Tuesday
4, 5, 6	Wednesday
7, 8, 9	Thursday
Any last digit	Friday

This document contains important information. Please have it translated immediately.

В данном документе содержится важная информация. Вам необходимо срочно сделать перевод документа.

Este documento contiene información importante. Por favor, consiga una traducción inmediatamente.

Tài liệu này có chứa thông tin quan trọng. Vui lòng dịch tài liệu này ngay.

Questo documento contiene informazioni importanti. La preghiamo di tradurlo immediatamente.

Este documento contém informações importantes. Por favor, traduzi-lo imediatamente.

Docikman sa gen enfòmasyon enpòtan. Tanpri fè yon moun tradwi l touswit.

본 문서에는 중요한 정보가 포함되어 있습니다. 본 문서를 즉시 번역하도록 하십시오.

ເອກະສານສະບັບນີ້ ບັນຈຸຂໍ້ມູນສໍາຄັນ.

ກະລຸນາເອົາເອກະສານສະບັບນີ້ໄປແປອອກ ຢ່າງບໍລິຊື້.

ឯកសារនេះមានຄຳສັ່ງທີ່ສຳຄັນ ។

ສូບອກໃຫ້ຮູ້ກ່ຽວກັບບັນຫາຂອງທ່ານ ។

Ce document contient des informations importantes. Veuillez le faire traduire au plus tôt.

此文件含有重要信息。請立即找人翻譯。

تحتوي هذه الوثيقة على معلومات هامة. يرجى ترجمتها فوراً!

**IMPORTANT:** Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 151A, Section 62A requires that this notice be displayed at each site operated by an employer, in a conspicuous place, where it is accessible to all employees. It must include the name and mailing address of the employer, and the identification number assigned to the employer by the Department of Unemployment Assistance .

An equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For hearing-impaired relay services, call 711.

NOTICE  
TO  
EMPLOYEES



NOTICE  
TO  
EMPLOYEES

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

1 Congress Street, Suite 100, Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2017

617-727-4900 - <http://www.state.ma.us/dia>

As required by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 152, Sections 21, 22 & 30, this will give you notice that I (we) have provided for payment to our injured employees under the above-mentioned chapter by insuring with:

---

NAME OF INSURANCE COMPANY

---

ADDRESS OF INSURANCE COMPANY

---

POLICY NUMBER

EFFECTIVE DATES

---

NAME OF INSURANCE AGENT

ADDRESS

PHONE #

---

EMPLOYER

ADDRESS

---

EMPLOYER'S WORKERS' COMPENSATION OFFICER (IF ANY)

DATE

### MEDICAL TREATMENT

The above named insurer is required in cases of personal injuries arising out of and in the course of employment to furnish adequate and reasonable hospital and medical services in accordance with the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act. A copy of the First Report of Injury must be given to the injured employee. The employee may select his or her own physician. The reasonable cost of the services provided by the treating physician will be paid by the insurer, if the treatment is necessary and reasonably connected to the work related injury. In cases requiring hospital attention, employees are hereby notified that the insurer has arranged for such attention at the

---

NAME OF HOSPITAL

ADDRESS

TO BE POSTED BY EMPLOYER



# THE FAIR HOUSING LAW

**THE FAIR HOUSING LAW DECLARES THAT IT IS ILLEGAL TO DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR RELIGIOUS CREED, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AGE, CHILDREN, ANCESTRY, MARITAL STATUS, VETERAN HISTORY, PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENCY, OR HANDICAP (MENTAL OR PHYSICAL)**

It is unlawful practice for Owners, lessees, sublessees, licensed real estate brokers, assignees, managing agents, or unit owners to refuse (on the basis of membership in one or more of the above groups) the:

Right to Buy

Right to Lease

Right to Rent

Right of Ownership

Right of Possession

---

## Under Massachusetts Law, it is illegal to:

Discourage a person from buying or renting a dwelling in a particular area and encourage him or her to buy or rent in another area.

Represent that a dwelling is not available for sale, rent or inspection when the dwelling is in fact so available.

Charge or quote a higher rental or sale price for a dwelling.

State or provide less favorable terms for the rental or a sale of a dwelling.

Publish discriminatory advertising.

Discriminate in the granting or mortgage loans.

Discriminate on the basis of handicap by refusing to make reasonable accommodations in policies and services or refusing to permit reasonable modifications of dwellings.

Discriminate on the basis of rental subsidy reciprocity by refusing to rent to subsidy recipients because of subsidy program requirements.

Refuse to rent to families with children under six because of lead paint.

Notice to Real Estate Agents:

State Law provides *limited* exemptions for owners of *certain types* of residential properties. *These exemptions do not apply to real estate agents.*

## Complaints:

ALL COMPLAINTS MUST BE FILED IN WRITING. INFORMATION ON THE FILING OF COMPLAINTS CAN BE OBTAINED BY EITHER VISITING OR CONTACTING THE MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION AT THE FOLOWING LOCATIONS:

One Ashburton Place, Rm. 601  
Boston MA 02108  
617-994-6000 Voice  
617-994-6196 TTY

436 Dwight Street, Rm. 220  
Springfield MA 01103  
413-739-2145 Voice

[www.mass.gov/mcad](http://www.mass.gov/mcad)

*Massachusetts General Laws, G.L. c. 151B §7 mandates the posting of this notice.*



## Massachusetts Workplace Safety and Health Protection for Public Employees

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 149, §§ 6 and 6-1/2 provide job safety and health protection for state, municipal and county workers through the promotion of safe and healthful work conditions. In addition, 454 CMR 25 directly extends OSHA regulations to executive branch state agencies.

- Employers:** Employers are required to provide procedures, equipment and training to prevent work-related injuries and illnesses.
- Employees:** Employees are required to comply with the policies and procedures established in their workplace to reduce work-related injuries and illnesses.
- Inspection:** The Department of Labor Standards (“DLS”) may conduct an on-site inspection to evaluate workplace conditions and make recommendations for the prevention of work-related injuries and illnesses. See “Inspection Summary” at [www.mass.gov/dols/wshp](http://www.mass.gov/dols/wshp).
- Enforcement:** DLS may issue a Written Warning which contains an Order to Correct when an inspection reveals a condition which could cause a work-related injury or illness. DLS may issue a Civil Citation with Civil Penalty in circumstances when the employer repeatedly allows an unsafe condition to occur, the condition has already caused a serious work-related injury, or if the employer has ignored a previous Written Warning.
- Voluntary Assistance:** Public sector workplaces may request technical assistance by contacting DLS at 508-616-0461 or [safepublicworkplace@state.ma.us](mailto:safepublicworkplace@state.ma.us). There are no written warnings or penalties issued for voluntary assistance.
- Complaints:** Public employees or their representatives may file a complaint about safety and health conditions at their workplace by contacting DLS at 508-616-0461 or [safepublicworkplace@state.ma.us](mailto:safepublicworkplace@state.ma.us).
- Safety and Health Management:** Sample safety programs and technical bulletins are available at [www.mass.gov/dols/wshp](http://www.mass.gov/dols/wshp).

# PAY DAY NOTICE

Regular Pay Days for Employees of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Firm Name)

shall be as follows:

\_\_\_\_ Weekly    \_\_\_\_ Bi-Weekly    \_\_\_\_ Semi Monthly    \_\_\_\_ Monthly

Pay Checks will be distributed at

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Place of Distribution)

**This is in accordance with Massachusetts State Law**

By \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

---

## EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

**For**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Give Exact address of This Worksite Location)

Physicians: \_\_\_\_\_

Hospitals: \_\_\_\_\_

Ambulances: 911 or \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department 911 or: \_\_\_\_\_

Police: 911 or \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE POST IN A CONSPICUOUS LOCATION

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## NO SMOKING

**It is illegal  
to smoke  
in this  
establishment.**



To report a violation,  
contact the  
Massachusetts Dept.  
of Public Health at  
1-800-992-1895.

BH2684 | 03/19

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

## EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION ACT

The Employee Polygraph Protection Act prohibits most private employers from using lie detector tests either for pre-employment screening or during the course of employment.

### PROHIBITIONS

Employers are generally prohibited from requiring or requesting any employee or job applicant to take a lie detector test, and from discharging, disciplining, or discriminating against an employee or prospective employee for refusing to take a test or for exercising other rights under the Act.

### EXEMPTIONS

Federal, State and local governments are not affected by the law. Also, the law does not apply to tests given by the Federal Government to certain private individuals engaged in national security-related activities.

The Act permits polygraph (a kind of lie detector) tests to be administered in the private sector, subject to restrictions, to certain prospective employees of security service firms (armored car, alarm, and guard), and of pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors and dispensers.

The Act also permits polygraph testing, subject to restrictions, of certain employees of private firms who are reasonably suspected of involvement in a workplace incident (theft, embezzlement, etc.) that resulted in economic loss to the employer.

The law does not preempt any provision of any State or local law or any collective bargaining agreement which is more restrictive with respect to lie detector tests.

### EXAMINEE RIGHTS

Where polygraph tests are permitted, they are subject to numerous strict standards concerning the conduct and length of the test. Examinees have a number of specific rights, including the right to a written notice before testing, the right to refuse or discontinue a test, and the right not to have test results disclosed to unauthorized persons.

### ENFORCEMENT

The Secretary of Labor may bring court actions to restrain violations and assess civil penalties against violators. Employees or job applicants may also bring their own court actions.

**THE LAW REQUIRES EMPLOYERS TO DISPLAY THIS POSTER WHERE EMPLOYEES AND JOB APPLICANTS CAN READILY SEE IT.**



WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

1-866-487-9243  
TTY: 1-877-889-5627  
[www.dol.gov/whd](http://www.dol.gov/whd)



# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

## UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

### FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

# \$7.25

 PER HOUR

BEGINNING JULY 24, 2009

The law requires employers to display this poster where employees can readily see it.

**OVERTIME PAY** At least 1½ times the regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

**CHILD LABOR** An employee must be at least 16 years old to work in most non-farm jobs and at least 18 to work in non-farm jobs declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor. Youths 14 and 15 years old may work outside school hours in various non-manufacturing, non-mining, non-hazardous jobs with certain work hours restrictions. Different rules apply in agricultural employment.

**TIP CREDIT** Employers of “tipped employees” who meet certain conditions may claim a partial wage credit based on tips received by their employees. Employers must pay tipped employees a cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour if they claim a tip credit against their minimum wage obligation. If an employee’s tips combined with the employer’s cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour do not equal the minimum hourly wage, the employer must make up the difference.

**NURSING MOTHERS** The FLSA requires employers to provide reasonable break time for a nursing mother employee who is subject to the FLSA’s overtime requirements in order for the employee to express breast milk for her nursing child for one year after the child’s birth each time such employee has a need to express breast milk. Employers are also required to provide a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by the employee to express breast milk.

**ENFORCEMENT** The Department has authority to recover back wages and an equal amount in liquidated damages in instances of minimum wage, overtime, and other violations. The Department may litigate and/or recommend criminal prosecution. Employers may be assessed civil money penalties for each willful or repeated violation of the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions of the law. Civil money penalties may also be assessed for violations of the FLSA’s child labor provisions. Heightened civil money penalties may be assessed for each child labor violation that results in the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and such assessments may be doubled when the violations are determined to be willful or repeated. The law also prohibits retaliating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceeding under the FLSA.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Certain occupations and establishments are exempt from the minimum wage, and/or overtime pay provisions.
- Special provisions apply to workers in American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.
- Some employers incorrectly classify workers as “independent contractors” when they are actually employees under the FLSA. It is important to know the difference between the two because employees (unless exempt) are entitled to the FLSA’s minimum wage and overtime pay protections and correctly classified independent contractors are not.
- Certain full-time students, student learners, apprentices, and workers with disabilities may be paid less than the minimum wage under special certificates issued by the Department of Labor.



WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

1-866-487-9243  
TTY: 1-877-889-5627  
[www.dol.gov/whd](http://www.dol.gov/whd)



# Equal Employment Opportunity is **THE LAW**

## **Private Employers, State and Local Governments, Educational Institutions, Employment Agencies and Labor Organizations**

Applicants to and employees of most private employers, state and local governments, educational institutions, employment agencies and labor organizations are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

### **RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN**

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, protects applicants and employees from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), or national origin. Religious discrimination includes failing to reasonably accommodate an employee's religious practices where the accommodation does not impose undue hardship.

### **DISABILITY**

Title I and Title V of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, protect qualified individuals from discrimination on the basis of disability in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment. Disability discrimination includes not making reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee, barring undue hardship.

### **AGE**

The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, protects applicants and employees 40 years of age or older from discrimination based on age in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment.

### **SEX (WAGES)**

In addition to sex discrimination prohibited by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, as amended, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, as amended, prohibits sex discrimination in the payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work, in jobs that require equal skill, effort, and responsibility, under similar working conditions, in the same establishment.

### **GENETICS**

Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 protects applicants and employees from discrimination based on genetic information in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment. GINA also restricts employers' acquisition of genetic information and strictly limits disclosure of genetic information. Genetic information includes information about genetic tests of applicants, employees, or their family members; the manifestation of diseases or disorders in family members (family medical history); and requests for or receipt of genetic services by applicants, employees, or their family members.

### **RETALIATION**

All of these Federal laws prohibit covered entities from retaliating against a person who files a charge of discrimination, participates in a discrimination proceeding, or otherwise opposes an unlawful employment practice.

### **WHAT TO DO IF YOU BELIEVE DISCRIMINATION HAS OCCURRED**

There are strict time limits for filing charges of employment discrimination. To preserve the ability of EEOC to act on your behalf and to protect your right to file a private lawsuit, should you ultimately need to, you should contact EEOC promptly when discrimination is suspected:

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), 1-800-669-4000 (toll-free) or 1-800-669-6820 (toll-free TTY number for individuals with hearing impairments). EEOC field office information is available at [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov) or in most telephone directories in the U.S. Government or Federal Government section. Additional information about EEOC, including information about charge filing, is available at [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov).

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## Employers Holding Federal Contracts or Subcontracts

Applicants to and employees of companies with a Federal government contract or subcontract are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

### **RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN**

Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits job discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, and requires affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment.

### **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, protects qualified individuals from discrimination on the basis of disability in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment. Disability discrimination includes not making reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee, barring undue hardship. Section 503 also requires that Federal contractors take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities at all levels of employment, including the executive level.

### **DISABLED, RECENTLY SEPARATED, OTHER PROTECTED, AND ARMED FORCES SERVICE MEDAL VETERANS**

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. 4212, prohibits job discrimination and requires affirmative action to employ and advance in employment disabled veterans, recently separated veterans (within

three years of discharge or release from active duty), other protected veterans (veterans who served during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized), and Armed Forces service medal veterans (veterans who, while on active duty, participated in a U.S. military operation for which an Armed Forces service medal was awarded).

### **RETALIATION**

Retaliation is prohibited against a person who files a complaint of discrimination, participates in an OFCCP proceeding, or otherwise opposes discrimination under these Federal laws.

Any person who believes a contractor has violated its nondiscrimination or affirmative action obligations under the authorities above should contact immediately:

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210, 1-800-397-6251 (toll-free) or (202) 693-1337 (TTY). OFCCP may also be contacted by e-mail at [OFCCP-Public@dol.gov](mailto:OFCCP-Public@dol.gov), or by calling an OFCCP regional or district office, listed in most telephone directories under U.S. Government, Department of Labor.

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## Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance

### **RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX**

In addition to the protections of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination is covered by Title VI if the primary objective of the financial assistance is provision of employment, or where employment discrimination causes or may cause discrimination in providing services under such programs. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities which receive Federal financial assistance.

### **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity which receives Federal financial assistance. Discrimination is prohibited in all aspects of employment against persons with disabilities who, with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in a program of any institution which receives Federal financial assistance, you should immediately contact the Federal agency providing such assistance.



U.S. Department of Labor



# Job Safety and Health

## IT'S THE LAW!

### All workers have the right to:

- A safe workplace.
- Raise a safety or health concern with your employer or OSHA, or report a work-related injury or illness, without being retaliated against.
- Receive information and training on job hazards, including all hazardous substances in your workplace.
- Request a confidential OSHA inspection of your workplace if you believe there are unsafe or unhealthy conditions. You have the right to have a representative contact OSHA on your behalf.
- Participate (or have your representative participate) in an OSHA inspection and speak in private to the inspector.

### Employers must:

- Provide employees a workplace free from recognized hazards. It is illegal to retaliate against an employee for using any of their rights under the law, including raising a health and safety concern with you or with OSHA, or reporting a work-related injury or illness.
- Comply with all applicable OSHA standards.
- Notify OSHA within 8 hours of a workplace fatality or within 24 hours of any work-related inpatient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye.
- Provide required training to all workers in a language and vocabulary they can understand.
- Prominently display this poster in the workplace.
- Post OSHA citations at or near the place of the alleged violations.

- File a complaint with OSHA within 30 days (by phone, online or by mail) if you have been retaliated against for using your rights.
- See any OSHA citations issued to your employer.
- Request copies of your medical records, tests that measure hazards in the workplace, and the workplace injury and illness log.

*This poster is available free from OSHA.*

***Contact OSHA. We can help.***

On-Site Consultation services are available to small and medium-sized employers, without citation or penalty, through OSHA-supported consultation programs in every state.



**1-800-321-OSHA (6742) • TTY 1-877-889-5627 • [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)**

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

## LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS

Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within 1 year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job;
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave.

Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions.

An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave;\* and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.

\*Special "hours of service" requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis, but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

## BENEFITS & PROTECTIONS

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## REQUESTING LEAVE

## EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES

## ENFORCEMENT

For additional information or to file a complaint:

**1-866-4-USWAGE**

(1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

**[www.dol.gov/whd](http://www.dol.gov/whd)**

U.S. Department of Labor | Wage and Hour Division





# YOUR RIGHTS UNDER USERRA

## THE UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT

**USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.**

### REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- ★ you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- ★ you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- ★ you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- ★ you have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

### RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION

If you:

- ★ are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- ★ have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- ★ are obligated to serve in the uniformed service;

then an employer may not deny you:

- ★ initial employment;
- ★ reemployment;
- ★ retention in employment;
- ★ promotion; or
- ★ any benefit of employment

because of this status.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

### HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION

- ★ If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.
- ★ Even if you don't elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

### ENFORCEMENT

- ★ The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.
- ★ For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at **1-866-4-USA-DOL** or visit its **website at <http://www.dol.gov/vets>**. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at **<http://www.dol.gov/elaws/userra.htm>**.
- ★ If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable, for representation.
- ★ You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS, and may be viewed on the internet at this address: <http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/poster.htm>. Federal law requires employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying the text of this notice where they customarily place notices for employees.



**U.S. Department of Labor**  
**1-866-487-2365**



**U.S. Department of Justice**



**Office of Special Counsel**



**EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE**  
**1-800-336-4590**

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