

ERIE WATER WORKS



FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE



ERIE CITY WATER AUTHORITY

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE POLICY

Introduction

The Water Authority will provide unpaid family and medical leave to eligible employees as set forth in this policy.

Definitions

The Authority adopts the definitions of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, which are listed in part below:

1. "Son or daughter" means a biological, adopted or foster child, a stepchild, legal ward or a child of a person standing in loco parentis who is -
 - A. Under 18 years of age; or
 - B. 18 years of age or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability.

"Parent" means the biological parent of an employee or an individual who stood in loco parentis to an employee when the employee was a child.

"Spouse" means a husband or wife.

"Serious health condition" means an illness, injury or impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves a) inpatient care in a hospital, hospice or residential medical care facility or b) continuing treatment by a health care provider.

"Employment benefits" means all benefits made available to employees by an employer, including group life insurance, health insurance, disability insurance, sick leave, annual leave, education benefits, and pensions.

Eligibility

Any employee working for the Water Authority who has worked for at least 12 months and for at least 1,250 hours of service with the Water Authority during the previous 12-month period preceding the commencement of the leave.

Conditions Under Which Family and Medical Leave is Permitted

An eligible employee may take up to 12 weeks of family and medical leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

1. Because of the birth of a son or daughter of the employee and in order to care for such son or daughter if the leave is taken within the 12-month period immediately following the child's birth.
2. Because of the placement of a son or daughter with the employee for adoption or foster care if the placement.
3. In order to care for a spouse, or a son, daughter, or parent of an employee who has a serious health condition; or
4. The employee has a serious health condition rendering the employee unable to perform the functions of his/her job.

FMLA leave also is available to employees with family members serving in the U.S. Armed Forces for the following qualifying reasons:

- To assist with or attend to a “qualifying exigency” associated with the employee’s spouse, parent or child’s call to active duty; or
- To care for a covered military service member with a serious injury or illness incurred in the line of duty.

The provisions for military-related FMLA are described in greater detail below.

Use of Paid Leave during Family and Medical Leave

An employee may request to use vacation, sick, and personal days concurrently under the Family and Medical policy.

Length of Leave

For purposes of determining eligibility and leave entitlement, the 12-month period is a “rolling” 12-month period measured backward from the date the qualifying leave is scheduled to begin. If an eligible employee has not used all 12 weeks of FMLA leave during the previous 12-month period, he/she would be eligible to take the balance of the leave for that period.

Intermittent Leave

An employee may not take family and medical leave on an intermittent basis because of the birth, adoption or placement of a child. An employee may only take intermittent leave when medically necessary due to a serious health condition, but subject to the prior written approval of the Water Authority. The Water Authority may require such an employee to be transferred to an alternative position, with equivalent pay and benefits.

Reduced Leave Schedule

The Authority may allow an employee to take family and medical leave on a reduced leave (i.e., part-time) schedule. The reduced leave schedule will not decrease the total amount of leave available under this policy. For every hour the employee takes on a reduced family and medical schedule, an hour will be subtracted from the total number of hours available under this policy. The Water Authority may require an employee taking reduced leave to transfer to an available alternative position, with equivalent pay and benefits.

Military-Related FMLA Leave

The following provisions apply to our employees who are related to members of the United States Armed Forces, which includes members of the National Guard and Reserve.

Qualifying Exigency Leave

Employees who otherwise are eligible for FMLA leave are entitled to take FMLA leave for a “qualifying exigency” arising out of the fact that the employee’s spouse, son, daughter or parent either is on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty as a member of the United States Armed Forces, provided that the active duty involves deployment to a foreign country. For purposes of this policy, a “qualifying exigency” is defined in accordance with FMLA and NDAA regulations and may fall within one of the following categories:

- Short-notice deployment;
- Military events and related activities;
- Childcare and school activities;
- Financial and legal arrangements;
- Counseling;
- Rest and recuperation;
- Parental care;
- Post-deployment activities; and
- Additional activities not encompassed in the other categories, but agreed to by the Authority and employee.

Leave taken for a “qualifying exigency” will be counted against an employee’s 12-week FMLA entitlement. Intermittent or reduced schedule leave may be available for a leave taken for a “qualifying exigency.”

Where the leave arises out of a call or impending call to active duty in the Armed Forces which is foreseeable, the employee must provide as much notice as is reasonable and practicable under the circumstances.

Military Caregiver Leave / Covered Service Member Leave

An eligible employee who is the spouse, son, daughter, parent or next of kin (i.e. nearest blood relative) of a covered service member is entitled to a total of 26 work weeks of leave during a

12-month period to care for the covered service member. A “covered service member” is a member of the Armed Forces who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, therapy or is in “outpatient status” or otherwise on the temporary disability retired list for a serious injury or illness. A “covered service member” also may include a veteran of the Armed Forces who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for a serious illness or injury and who was a member of the Armed Forces at any time during the five (5) year period preceding the first date the eligible employee takes FMLA leave to care for the covered veteran. A “serious injury or illness” means any injury or illness that occurred in the line of active duty or a pre-existing condition that was aggravated in the line of duty which renders the member medically unfit to perform the duties of the member’s office, grade, rank or rating in the Armed Forces, and in the case of covered veterans, as otherwise defined by applicable law and regulation. All other terms in this policy are defined in accordance with FMLA regulations.

Military Caregiver Leave is available only once per covered illness or injury. In the single 12-month period in which the 26 weeks of Military Caregiver Leave is taken, the combined regular FMLA and Military Caregiver Leave cannot exceed 26 weeks. However, an employee’s regular FMLA leave (i.e. annual 12-week entitlement) is not subject to the “one time only limit.”

Military Caregiver Leave may be taken on an intermittent or reduced leave schedule when medically necessary.

Requesting FMLA Leave

A request for FMLA leave should be made as far in advance as practicable. Where the necessity for leave is foreseeable, you must provide at least 30 days’ notice of your intention to take leave. If 30 days’ notice is not possible, you are expected to provide notice as soon as practicable under the circumstances. In all cases, notice should be given as soon as practicable under the circumstances. If an employee fails to give at least 30 days’ notice for foreseeable leave without a reasonable excuse for the delay, or if you otherwise fail to satisfy FMLA notice obligations, the Authority may delay approval of FMLA leave. Any unapproved absences during this period will be handled according to the Authority’s usual attendance policies and procedures.

A request for FMLA leave must be made in writing to the Human Resources Director. The request must include: (1) the reason(s) the leave is needed; (2) the date you want to start your leave; and (3) the date you will return to work. The Authority will respond to leave requests in writing.

A request for medical leave must be supported by timely written certification issued by the employee’s health care provider to support a request for leave due to the employee’s own serious health condition or the serious health condition of a family member. A copy of the form to be used is attached to this policy. The certification must provide the approximate date the serious health condition commenced, the probable duration of the condition, the necessity for leave, and other appropriate medical facts regarding the condition. In the case of an employee’s own serious health condition, the health care provider should certify that the employee is unable to work or perform his/her essential job functions.

The employee must provide the required medical certification forms within five (5) business days of being notified that medical certification is required. If the employee is unable to obtain certification within five (5) business days, despite his/her good faith effort to do so, the time for providing certification may be extended to fifteen (15) days. Failure to provide medical certification within fifteen (15) days may result in delay or denial of leave until the certification is provided. If the employee has been absent during this period, the absence will be treated as absent “without leave” and will subject the employee to discipline, which may include discharge.

Second Opinions

Where leave is for an employee’s serious health condition or the serious health condition of a family member, the Authority reserves the right to require a second opinion from an Authority-designated health care provider at the Authority’s expense. If the second opinion conflicts with the original health care provider’s opinion, the Authority and the employee may jointly designate a third health care provider whose opinion shall be final.

Status Updates

The Authority may request periodic updates during the leave, as permitted by federal regulations, regarding the employee’s status.

Effect of Taking Paid Leave While on Family and Medical Leave

Any paid leave (vacation, sick days, personal days, etc.) the Authority provides to an employee taking leave under this policy which the employee takes and which is after the event for which family and medical leave is taken will be deducted from the twelve weeks of unpaid leave available. If the family and medical leave is for the sickness or injury of the employee, the employee is required to take any sick paid leave with and as part of the family and medical leave.

Accrual of Benefits While on Leave

The employee will accrue seniority, vacation and pension benefits while on family leave. However, pension benefits will accrue only to the extent that the employee pays his or her contribution to the pension for the period of said leave. The payment of the contribution for such period may be made in lump sum at the end of the leave or by the employee making double contributions after the end of said leave long enough to cover the leave.

Insurance Benefits While on Leave

The Water Authority will maintain coverage under any group health plan during the leave. If an employee fails to return from leave, the Authority may recover the premium from the employee. If you are unable to return from leave, you must contact the Human Resources Director immediately.

Spouses Working for the Water Authority

If spouses are working for the Authority and they both request leave at the same time for the birth, adoption, or placement of a child for foster care, the Authority may deny the request of one parent.

Return to Work

With limited exceptions, any eligible employee who takes leave is entitled to be restored to his/her position or to an equivalent position with equivalent pay, benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment. Reinstatement of an employee at the end of FMLA leave may be denied if the employee would not otherwise have been employed at the time reinstatement is requested or if the employee’s position no longer exists and the position would otherwise have been eliminated.

The Water Authority may require an employee to provide a physician’s certification before returning to work. When leave is requested for the employee's own serious health condition, the employee must provide a fitness-for-duty certification from a physician for reinstatement. The Authority may deny reinstatement until the employee submits the required certification. A certification also may be required if an employee is unable to return to work.

If an employee does not return to work on the next working day following the expiration of a FMLA leave or fails to notify the Authority of his/her ability to return from leave early, the employee will be considered to be absent “without leave” and will be subject to discipline which may include discharge.

Administration of the Policy

The Erie City Water Authority will administer this policy in a uniform, non-discriminatory fashion.

Policy Approval

Approved By:	Craig Palmer, CEO
Revision History:	Revised October 25, 2024

**Notice of Eligibility & Rights and Responsibilities
under the Family and Medical Leave Act**

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



**DO NOT SEND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
PROVIDE TO EMPLOYEE.**

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003
Expires: 6/30/2026

In general, to be eligible to take leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), an employee must have worked for an employer for at least 12 months, meet the hours of service requirement in the 12 months preceding the leave, and work at a site with at least 50 employees within 75 miles. While use of this form is optional, a fully completed Form WH-381 provides employees with the information required by 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.300(b), (c) which must be provided within five business days of the employee notifying the employer of the need for FMLA leave. Information about the FMLA may be found [on the WHD website at www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla).

Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

From: _____ (Employer) To: _____ (Employee)

On _____ (mm/dd/yyyy), we learned that you need leave (beginning on) _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for one of the following reasons: (Select as appropriate)

- The birth of a child, or placement of a child with you for adoption or foster care, and to bond with the newborn or newly-placed child
- Your own serious health condition
- You are needed to care for your family member due to a serious health condition. Your family member is your:
 - Spouse Parent Child under age 18 Child 18 years or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability
- A qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that your family member is on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty status. Your family member on covered active duty is your:
 - Spouse Parent Child of any age
- You are needed to care for your family member who is a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness. You are the servicemember's:
 - Spouse Parent Child Next of kin

Spouse means a husband or wife as defined or recognized in the state where the individual was married, including in a common law marriage or same-sex marriage. The terms "child" and "parent" include *in loco parentis* relationships in which a person assumes the obligations of a parent to a child. An employee may take FMLA leave to care for an individual who assumed the obligations of a parent to the employee when the employee was a child. An employee may also take FMLA leave to care for a child for whom the employee has assumed the obligations of a parent. No legal or biological relationship is necessary.

SECTION I – NOTICE OF ELIGIBILITY

This Notice is to inform you that you are:

- Eligible** for FMLA leave. *(See Section II for any Additional Information Needed and Section III for information on your Rights and Responsibilities.)*
- Not eligible** for FMLA leave because: *(Only one reason need be checked)*
 - You have not met the FMLA's 12-month length of service requirement. As of the first date of requested leave, you will have worked approximately: _____ towards this requirement.
(months)
 - You have not met the FMLA's 1,250 hours of service requirement. As of the first date of requested leave, you will have worked approximately: _____ towards this requirement.
(hours of service)

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Form WH-381, Revised June 2020

Employee Name: _____

- You are an airline flight crew employee and you have not met the special hours of service eligibility requirements for airline flight crew employees as of the first date of requested leave (i.e., worked or been paid for at least 60% of your applicable monthly guarantee, and worked or been paid for at least 504 duty hours.)
- You do not work at and/or report to a site with 50 or more employees within 75-miles as of the date of your request.

If you have any questions, please contact: _____ *(Name of employer representative)*
at _____ *(Contact information)*.

SECTION II – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NEEDED

As explained in Section I, you meet the eligibility requirements for taking FMLA leave. Please review the information below to determine if additional information is needed in order for us to determine whether your absence qualifies as FMLA leave. Once we obtain any additional information specified below we will inform you, **within 5 business days**, whether your leave will be designated as FMLA leave and count towards the FMLA leave you have available. **If complete and sufficient information is not provided in a timely manner, your leave may be denied.**

(Select as appropriate)

- No additional information requested. If no additional information requested, go to Section III.
- We request that the leave be supported by a certification, as identified below.
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Provider for the Employee | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Provider for the Employee's Family Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Qualifying Exigency | <input type="checkbox"/> Serious Illness or Injury (<i>Military Caregiver Leave</i>) |

Selected certification form is attached / not attached.

If requested, medical certification must be returned by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) (Must allow at least 15 calendar days from the date the employer requested the employee to provide certification, unless it is not feasible despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts.)

- We request that you provide reasonable documentation or a statement to establish the relationship between you and your family member, including *in loco parentis* relationships (as explained on page one). The information requested must be returned to us by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy). You may choose to provide a simple statement of the relationship or provide documentation such as a child's birth certificate, a court document, or documents regarding foster care or adoption-related activities. Official documents submitted for this purpose will be returned to you after examination.
- Other information needed (e.g. documentation for military family leave): _____.
- The information requested must be returned to us by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).

If you have any questions, please contact: _____ (Name of employer representative)
at _____ (Contact information).

SECTION III – NOTICE OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Part A: FMLA Leave Entitlement

You have a right under the FMLA to take unpaid, job-protected FMLA leave in a 12-month period for certain family and medical reasons, including up to **12 weeks** of unpaid leave in a 12-month period for the birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care, for leave related to your own or a family member's serious health condition, or for certain qualifying exigencies related to the deployment of a military member to covered active duty. You also have a right

Employee Name: _____

under the FMLA to take up to **26 weeks** of unpaid, job-protected FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness (*Military Caregiver Leave*).

The 12-month period for FMLA leave is calculated as: *(Select as appropriate)*

- The calendar year (January 1st - December 31st)
- A fixed leave year based on _____
(e.g., a fiscal year beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30)
- The 12-month period measured forward from the date of your first FMLA leave usage.
- A “rolling” 12-month period measured backward from the date of any FMLA leave usage. *(Each time an employee takes FMLA leave, the remaining leave is the balance of the 12 weeks not used during the 12 months immediately before the FMLA leave is to start.)*

If applicable, the single 12-month period for *Military Caregiver Leave* started on _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*.

You *are* / *are not* **considered a key employee** as defined under the FMLA. Your FMLA leave cannot be denied for this reason; however, we may not restore you to employment following FMLA leave if such restoration will cause substantial and grievous economic injury to us.

We *have* / *have not* determined that restoring you to employment at the conclusion of FMLA leave will cause substantial and grievous economic harm to us. Additional information will be provided separately concerning your status as key employee and restoration.

Part B: Substitution of Paid Leave – When Paid Leave is Used at the Same Time as FMLA Leave

You have a right under the FMLA to request that your accrued paid leave be substituted for your FMLA leave. This means that you can request that your accrued paid leave run concurrently with some or all of your unpaid FMLA leave, provided you meet any applicable requirements of our leave policy. Concurrent leave use means the absence will count against both the designated paid leave and unpaid FMLA leave at the same time. If you do not meet the requirements for taking paid leave, you remain entitled to take available unpaid FMLA leave in the applicable 12-month period. Even if you do not request it, the FMLA allows us to require you to use your available sick, vacation, or other paid leave during your FMLA absence.

(Check all that apply)

- Some or all of your FMLA leave will not be paid.** Any unpaid FMLA leave taken will be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- You have requested to use some or all of your available paid leave** *(e.g., sick, vacation, PTO)* during your FMLA leave. Any paid leave taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- We are requiring you to use some or all of your available paid leave** *(e.g., sick, vacation, PTO)* during your FMLA leave. Any paid leave taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- Other:** *(e.g., short- or long-term disability, workers' compensation, state medical leave law, etc.)* _____
Any time taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.

The applicable conditions for use of paid leave include: _____.

For more information about conditions applicable to sick/vacation/other paid leave usage please refer to _____
_____ available at: _____.

Employee Name: _____

Part C: Maintain Health Benefits

Your health benefits must be maintained during any period of FMLA leave under the same conditions as if you continued to work. During any paid portion of FMLA leave, your share of any premiums will be paid by the method normally used during any paid leave. During any unpaid portion of FMLA leave, you must continue to make any normal contributions to the cost of the health insurance premiums. To make arrangements to continue to make your share of the premium payments on your health insurance while you are on any unpaid FMLA leave, contact _____ at _____.

You have a minimum grace period of (30-days or _____ *indicate longer period, if applicable*) in which to make premium payments. If payment is not made timely, your group health insurance may be cancelled, provided we notify you in writing at least 15 days before the date that your health coverage will lapse, or, at our option, we may pay your share of the premiums during FMLA leave, and recover these payments from you upon your return to work.

You may be required to reimburse us for our share of health insurance premiums paid on your behalf during your FMLA leave if you do not return to work following **unpaid** FMLA leave for a reason other than: the continuation, recurrence, or onset of your or your family member's serious health condition which would entitle you to FMLA leave; or the continuation, recurrence, or onset of a covered servicemember's serious injury or illness which would entitle you to FMLA leave; or other circumstances beyond your control.

Part D: Other Employee Benefits

Upon your return from FMLA leave, your other employee benefits, such as pensions or life insurance, must be resumed in the same manner and at the same levels as provided when your FMLA leave began. To make arrangements to continue your employee benefits while you are on FMLA leave, contact _____ at _____.

Part E: Return-to-Work Requirements

You must be reinstated to the same or an equivalent job with the same pay, benefits, and terms and conditions of employment on your return from FMLA-protected leave. An equivalent position is one that is virtually identical to your former position in terms of pay, benefits, and working conditions. At the end of your FMLA leave, all benefits must also be resumed in the same manner and at the same level provided when the leave began. You do not have return-to-work rights under the FMLA if you need leave beyond the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use.

Part F: Other Requirements While on FMLA Leave

While on leave you (will be / will not be) required to furnish us with periodic reports of your status and intent to return to work every _____.

(Indicate interval of periodic reports, as appropriate for the FMLA leave situation).

If the circumstances of your leave change and you are able to return to work earlier than expected, you will be required to notify us at least two workdays prior to the date you intend to report for work.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

It is mandatory for employers to provide employees with notice of their eligibility for FMLA protection and their rights and responsibilities. 29 U.S.C. § 2617; 29 C.F.R. § 825.300(b), (c). It is mandatory for employers to retain a copy of this disclosure in their records for three years. 29 U.S.C. § 2616; 29 C.F.R. § 825.500. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Department of Labor estimates that it will take an average of 10 minutes for respondents to complete this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

DO NOT SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. EMPLOYEE INFORMATION.

**Designation Notice
under the Family and Medical Leave Act**

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



**DO NOT SEND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
PROVIDE TO EMPLOYEE.**

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003
Expires: 6/30/2026

Leave covered under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) must be designated as FMLA-protected and the employer must inform the employee of the amount of leave that will be counted against the employee's FMLA leave entitlement. In order to determine whether leave is covered under the FMLA, the employer may request that the leave be supported by a certification. If the certification is incomplete or insufficient, the employer must state in writing what additional information is necessary to make the certification complete and sufficient. While use of this form is optional, a fully completed Form WH-382 provides employees with the information required by 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.300(d), 825.301, and 825.305(c), which must be provided within five business days of the employer having enough information to determine whether the leave is for an FMLA-qualifying reason. Information about the FMLA may be found [on the WHD website at www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla).

SECTION I - EMPLOYER

The employer is responsible in **all** circumstances for designating leave as FMLA-qualifying and giving notice to the employee. Once an eligible employee communicates a need to take leave for an FMLA-qualifying reason, an employer may not delay designating such leave as FMLA leave, and neither the employee nor the employer may decline FMLA protection for that leave.

Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

From: _____ (Employer) To: _____ (Employee)

On _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) we received your most recent information to support your need for leave due to:
(Select as appropriate)

- The birth of a child, or placement of a child with you for adoption or foster care, and to bond with the newborn or newly-placed child
- Your own serious health condition
- The serious health condition of your spouse, child, or parent
- A qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that your spouse, child, or parent is on covered active duty or has been notified of an impending call or order to covered active duty with the Armed Forces
- A serious injury or illness of a covered servicemember where you are the servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin (Military Caregiver Leave)

We have reviewed information related to your need for leave under the FMLA along with any supporting documentation provided and decided that your FMLA leave request is: (Select as appropriate)

- Approved.** All leave taken for this reason will be designated as FMLA leave. Go to Section III for more information.
- Not Approved:** (Select as appropriate)
 - The FMLA does not apply to your leave request.
 - As of the date the leave is to start, you do not have any FMLA leave available to use.
 - Other _____
- Additional information** is needed to determine if your leave request qualifies as FMLA leave. (Go to Section II for the specific information needed. If your FMLA leave request is approved and no additional information is needed, go to Section III.)

SECTION II – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NEEDED

We need additional information to determine whether your leave request qualifies under the FMLA. Once we obtain the additional information requested, we will inform you **within 5 business days** if your leave will or will not be designated as FMLA leave and count towards the amount of FMLA leave you have available. **Failure to provide the additional information as requested may result in a denial of your FMLA leave request.**

If you have any questions, please contact: _____ at _____
(Name of employer FMLA representative) (Contact information)

Incomplete or Insufficient Certification

The certification you have provided is incomplete and/or insufficient to determine whether the FMLA applies to your leave request. (Select as applicable)

- The certification provided is incomplete and we are unable to determine whether the FMLA applies to your leave request. "Incomplete" means one or more of the applicable entries on the certification have not been completed.

Employee Name: _____

- The certification provided is insufficient to determine whether the FMLA applies to your leave request. "Insufficient" means the information provided is vague, unclear, ambiguous or non-responsive.

Specify the information needed to make the certification complete and/or sufficient: _____

You must provide the requested information no later than (provide at least 7 calendar days) _____ (mm/dd/yyyy), unless it is not practicable under the particular circumstances despite your diligent good faith efforts, or your leave may be denied.

Second and Third Opinions

- We request that you obtain a (second / third opinion) medical certification at our expense, and we will provide further details at a later time. Note: The employee or the employee's family member may be requested to authorize the health care provider to release information pertaining only to the serious health condition at issue.

SECTION III – FMLA LEAVE APPROVED

As explained in Section I, your FMLA leave request is approved. All leave taken for this reason will be designated as FMLA leave and will count against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period. The FMLA requires that you notify us as soon as practicable if the dates of scheduled leave change, are extended, or were initially unknown. Based on the information you have provided to date, we are providing the following information about the amount of time that will be counted against the total amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period: (Select as appropriate)

- Provided there is no change from your **anticipated FMLA leave schedule**, the following number of hours, days, or weeks will be counted against your leave entitlement: _____.
- Because the leave you will need will be **unscheduled**, it is not possible to provide the hours, days, or weeks that will be counted against your FMLA entitlement at this time. You have the right to request this information once in a 30-day period (if leave was taken in the 30-day period).

Please be advised: (check all that apply)

- Some or all of your FMLA leave will not be paid.** Any unpaid FMLA leave taken will be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- Based on your request, some or all of your available paid leave (e.g., sick, vacation, PTO) will be used during your FMLA leave.** Any paid leave taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- We are requiring you to use some or all of your available paid leave (e.g., sick, vacation, PTO) during your FMLA leave.** Any paid leave taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.
- Other:** _____
(e.g., Short- or long-term disability, workers' compensation, state medical leave law, etc.) Any time taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.

Return-to-work requirements. To be restored to work after taking FMLA leave, you (will be / will not be) required to provide a certification from your health care provider (fitness-for-duty certification) that you are able to resume work. This request for a fitness-for-duty certification is *only* with regard to the particular serious health condition that caused your need for FMLA leave. **If such certification is not timely received, your return to work may be delayed until the certification is provided.**

A list of the essential functions of your position (is / is not) attached. If attached, the fitness-for-duty certification must address your ability to perform the essential job functions.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

It is mandatory for employers to inform employees in writing whether leave requested under the FMLA has been determined to be covered under the FMLA. 29 U.S.C. § 2617; 29 C.F.R. § 825.300(d), (e). It is mandatory for employers to retain a copy of this disclosure in their records for three years. 29 U.S.C. § 2616; 29 C.F.R. § 825.500. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Department of Labor estimates that it will take an average of 10 minutes for respondents to complete this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

DO NOT SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. EMPLOYEE INFORMATION.

Employee Name: _____

Health Care Provider's name: (Print) _____

Health Care Provider's business address: _____

Type of practice / Medical specialty: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

PART A: Medical Information

Limit your response to the medical condition(s) for which the employee is seeking FMLA leave. Your answers should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. **After completing Part A, complete Part B to provide information about the amount of leave needed.** Note: For FMLA purposes, "incapacity" means the inability to work, attend school, or perform regular daily activities due to the condition, treatment of the condition, or recovery from the condition. Do not provide information about genetic tests, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(f), genetic services, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(e), or the manifestation of disease or disorder in the employee's family members, 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(b).

(1) State the approximate date the condition started or will start: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

(2) Provide your **best estimate** of how long the condition lasted or will last: _____

(3) Check the box(es) for the questions below, as applicable. For all box(es) checked, the amount of leave needed must be provided in Part B.

Inpatient Care: The patient (has been / is expected to be) admitted for an overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility on the following date(s): _____

Incapacity plus Treatment: (e.g. outpatient surgery, strep throat)

Due to the condition, the patient (has been / is expected to be) incapacitated for **more than three** consecutive, full calendar days from: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).

The patient (was / will be) seen on the following date(s): _____

The condition (has / has not) also resulted in a course of continuing treatment under the supervision of a health care provider (e.g. prescription medication (other than over-the-counter) or therapy requiring special equipment).

Pregnancy: The condition is pregnancy. List the expected delivery date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).

Chronic Conditions: (e.g. asthma, migraine headaches) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to have treatment visits at least twice per year.

Permanent or Long Term Conditions: (e.g. Alzheimer's, terminal stages of cancer) Due to the condition, incapacity is permanent or long term and requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider (even if active treatment is not being provided).

Conditions requiring Multiple Treatments: (e.g. chemotherapy treatments, restorative surgery) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to receive multiple treatments.

None of the above: If none of the above condition(s) were checked, (i.e., inpatient care, pregnancy) no additional information is needed. Go to page 4 to sign and date the form.

Employee Name: _____

(4) If needed, briefly describe other appropriate medical facts related to the condition(s) for which the employee seeks FMLA leave. (e.g., use of nebulizer, dialysis)

PART B: Amount of Leave Needed

For the medical condition(s) checked in Part A, complete all that apply. Several questions seek a response as to the frequency or duration of a condition, treatment, etc. Your answer should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. Be as specific as you can; terms such as "lifetime," "unknown," or "indeterminate" may not be sufficient to determine FMLA coverage.

(5) Due to the condition, the patient (had / will have) **planned medical treatment(s)** (scheduled medical visits) (e.g. psychotherapy, prenatal appointments) on the following date(s): _____

(6) Due to the condition, the patient (was / will be) **referred to other health care provider(s)** for evaluation or treatment(s). State the nature of such treatments: (e.g. cardiologist, physical therapy) _____

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for the treatment(s).

Provide your **best estimate** of the duration of the treatment(s), including any period(s) of recovery (e.g. 3 days/week)

(7) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the employee to work a **reduced schedule**.

Provide your **best estimate** of the reduced schedule the employee is able to work. From _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) the employee is able to work: (e.g., 5 hours/day, up to 25 hours a week)

(8) Due to the condition, the patient (was / will be) **incapacitated for a continuous period of time**, including any time for treatment(s) and/or recovery.

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for the period of incapacity.

(9) Due to the condition, it (was / is / will be) medically necessary for the employee to be absent from work on an intermittent basis (periodically), including for any episodes of incapacity i.e., episodic flare-ups. Provide your **best estimate** of how often (frequency) and how long (duration) the episodes of incapacity will likely last.

Over the next 6 months, episodes of incapacity are estimated to occur _____ times per (day week month) and are likely to last approximately _____ (hours days) per episode.

Employee Name: _____

PART C: Essential Job Functions

If provided, the information in Section I question #4 may be used to answer this question. If the employer fails to provide a statement of the employee's essential functions or a job description, answer these questions based upon the employee's own description of the essential job functions. An employee who must be absent from work to receive medical treatment(s), such as scheduled medical visits, for a serious health condition is considered to be **not able** to perform the essential job functions of the position during the absence for treatment(s).

(10) Due to the condition, the employee (was not able / is not able / will not be able) to perform **one or more** of the essential job function(s). Identify at least one essential job function the employee is not able to perform:

Signature of Health Care Provider _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Definitions of a Serious Health Condition (See 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.113-.115)
Inpatient Care
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility.• Inpatient care includes any period of incapacity or any subsequent treatment in connection with the overnight stay.
Continuing Treatment by a Health Care Provider (any one or more of the following)
Incapacity Plus Treatment: A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days, and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition, that also involves either: <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Two or more in-person visits to a health care provider for treatment within 30 days of the first day of incapacity unless extenuating circumstances exist. The first visit must be within seven days of the first day of incapacity; or,o At least one in-person visit to a health care provider for treatment within seven days of the first day of incapacity, which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider. For example, the health provider might prescribe a course of prescription medication or therapy requiring special equipment.
Pregnancy: Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care. _____
Chronic Conditions: Any period of incapacity due to or treatment for a chronic serious health condition, such as diabetes, asthma, migraine headaches. A chronic serious health condition is one which requires visits to a health care provider (or nurse supervised by the provider) at least twice a year and recurs over an extended period of time. A chronic condition may cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity.
Permanent or Long-term Conditions: A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective, but which requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider, such as Alzheimer's disease or the terminal stages of cancer.
Conditions Requiring Multiple Treatments: Restorative surgery after an accident or other injury; or, a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days if the patient did not receive the treatment.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

If submitted, it is mandatory for employers to retain a copy of this disclosure in their records for three years. 29 U.S.C. § 2616; 29 C.F.R. § 825.500. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Department of Labor estimates that it will take an average of 15 minutes for respondents to complete this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. RETURN TO THE PATIENT.

Certification of Health Care Provider for Family Member's Serious Health Condition under the Family and Medical Leave Act

U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division



DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. RETURN TO THE PATIENT.

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003 Expires: 6/30/2026

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides that an employer may require an employee seeking FMLA leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition to submit a medical certification issued by the family member's health care provider. 29 U.S.C. §§ 2613, 2614(c)(3); 29 C.F.R. § 825.305. The employer must give the employee at least 15 calendar days to provide the certification. If the employee fails to provide complete and sufficient medical certification, his or her FMLA leave request may be denied. 29 C.F.R. § 825.313. Information about the FMLA may be found on the WHD website at www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla.

SECTION I - EMPLOYER

Either the employee or the employer may complete Section I. While use of this form is optional, this form asks the health care provider for the information necessary for a complete and sufficient medical certification, which is set out at 29 C.F.R. § 825.306. You may not ask the employee to provide more information than allowed under the FMLA regulations, 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.306-825.308. Additionally, you may not request a certification for FMLA leave to bond with a healthy newborn child or a child placed for adoption or foster care.

Employers must generally maintain records and documents relating to medical information, medical certifications, recertifications, or medical histories of employees or employees' family members created for FMLA purposes as confidential medical records in separate files/records from the usual personnel files and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1630.14(c)(1), if the Americans with Disabilities Act applies, and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1635.9, if the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act applies.

(1) Employee name: [First] [Middle] [Last]
(2) Employer name: _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
(List date certification requested)
(3) The medical certification must be returned by _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
(Must allow at least 15 calendar days from the date requested, unless it is not feasible despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts.)

SECTION II - EMPLOYEE

Please complete and sign Section II before providing this form to your family member or your family member's health care provider. The FMLA allows an employer to require that you submit a timely, complete, and sufficient medical certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to the serious health condition of your family member. If requested by your employer, your response is required to obtain or retain the benefit of the FMLA protections. 29 U.S.C. §§ 2613, 2614(c)(3). You are responsible for making sure the medical certification is provided to your employer within the time frame requested, which must be at least 15 calendar days. 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.305-825.306. Failure to provide a complete and sufficient medical certification may result in a denial of your FMLA leave request. 29 C.F.R. § 825.313.

(1) Name of the family member for whom you will provide care: _____
(2) Select the relationship of the family member to you. The family member is your:
[] Spouse [] Parent [] Child, under age 18
[] Child, age 18 or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability

Spouse means a husband or wife as defined or recognized in the state where the individual was married, including in a common law marriage or same-sex marriage. The terms "child" and "parent" include in loco parentis relationships in which a person assumes the obligations of a parent to a child. An employee may take FMLA leave to care for an individual who assumed the obligations of a parent to the employee when the employee was a child. An employee may also take FMLA leave to care for a child for whom the employee has assumed the obligations of a parent. No legal or biological relationship is necessary.

Employee Name: _____

(3) Briefly describe the care you will provide to your family member: (Check all that apply)

- Assistance with basic medical, hygienic, nutritional, or safety needs Transportation
 Physical Care Psychological Comfort Other: _____

(4) Give your **best estimate** of the amount of leave needed to provide the care described:

(5) If a **reduced work schedule** is necessary to provide the care described, give your **best estimate** of the reduced schedule you are able to work. From _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy), I am able to work _____ (hours per day) _____ (days per week)

Employee Signature _____ Date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

SECTION III - HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Please provide your contact information, complete all relevant parts of this Section, and sign the form below. A family member of your patient has requested leave under the FMLA to care for your patient. The FMLA allows an employer to require that the employee submit a timely, complete, and sufficient medical certification to support a request for FMLA leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition. For FMLA purposes, a "serious health condition" means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves inpatient care or continuing treatment by a health care provider. For more information about the definitions of a serious health condition under the FMLA, see the chart at the end of the form.

You also may, but are **not required** to, provide other appropriate medical facts including symptoms, diagnosis, or any regimen of continuing treatment such as the use of specialized equipment. Please note that some state or local laws may not allow disclosure of private medical information about the patient's serious health condition, such as providing the diagnosis and/or course of treatment.

Health Care Provider's name: (Print) _____

Health Care Provider's business address: _____

Type of practice / Medical specialty: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

PART A: Medical Information

Limit your response to the medical condition for which the employee is seeking FMLA leave. Your answers should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. **After completing Part A, complete Part B to provide information about the amount of leave needed.** Note: For FMLA purposes, "incapacity" means the inability to work, attend school, or perform regular daily activities due to the condition, treatment of the condition, or recovery from the condition. Do not provide information about genetic tests, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(f), genetic services, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(e), or the manifestation of disease or disorder in the employee's family members, 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(b).

(1) Patient's Name: _____

(2) State the approximate date the condition started or will start: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

(3) Provide your **best estimate** of how long the condition lasted or will last: _____

(4) For FMLA to apply, care of the patient must be medically necessary. Briefly describe the type of care needed by the patient (e.g., assistance with basic medical, hygienic, nutritional, safety, transportation needs, physical care, or psychological comfort).

Employee Name: _____

(5) Check the box(es) for the questions below, as applicable. For all box(es) checked, the amount of leave needed must be provided in Part B.

Inpatient Care: The patient (has been / is expected to be) admitted for an overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility on the following date(s): _____

Incapacity plus Treatment: (e.g. outpatient surgery, strep throat)
Due to the condition, the patient (has been / is expected to be) incapacitated for more than three consecutive, full calendar days from: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).
The patient (was / will be) seen on the following date(s): _____

The condition (has / has not) also resulted in a course of continuing treatment under the supervision of a health care provider (e.g. prescription medication (other than over-the-counter) or therapy requiring special equipment)

- Pregnancy:** The condition is pregnancy. List the expected delivery date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy).
- Chronic Conditions:** (e.g. asthma, migraine headaches) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to have treatment visits at least twice per year.
- Permanent or Long Term Conditions:** (e.g. Alzheimer's, terminal stages of cancer) Due to the condition, incapacity is permanent or long term and requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider (even if active treatment is not being provided).
- Conditions requiring Multiple Treatments:** (e.g. chemotherapy treatments, restorative surgery) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to receive multiple treatments.
- None of the above:** If none of the above condition(s) were checked, (i.e., inpatient care, pregnancy) no additional information is needed. Go to page 4 to sign and date the form.

(6) If needed, briefly describe other appropriate medical facts related to the condition(s) for which the employee seeks FMLA leave. (e.g., use of nebulizer, dialysis)

PART B: Amount of Leave Needed

For the medical condition(s) checked in Part A, complete all that apply. Several questions seek a response as to the frequency or duration of a condition, treatment, etc. Your answer should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. Be as specific as you can; terms such as "lifetime," "unknown," or "indeterminate" may not be sufficient to determine if the benefits and protections of the FMLA apply.

(7) Due to the condition, the patient (had / will have) **planned medical treatment(s)** (scheduled medical visits) (e.g. psychotherapy, prenatal appointments) on the following date(s): _____

(8) Due to the condition, the patient (was / will be) **referred to other health care provider(s)** for evaluation or treatment(s).
State the nature of such treatments: (e.g. cardiologist, physical therapy) _____

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for the treatment(s).

Provide your **best estimate** of the duration of the treatment(s), including any period(s) of recovery (e.g. 3 days/week)

Employee Name: _____

(9) Due to the condition, the patient (was / will be) **incapacitated for a continuous period of time**, including any time for treatment(s) and/or recovery.

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) for the period of incapacity.

(10) Due to the condition, it (was / is / will be) medically necessary for the employee to be absent from work to provide care for the patient on an **intermittent basis** (periodically), including for any episodes of incapacity i.e., episodic flare-ups. Provide your **best estimate** of how often (frequency) and how long (duration) the episodes of incapacity will likely last.

Over the next 6 months, episodes of incapacity are estimated to occur _____ times per (day week month) and are likely to last approximately _____ (hours days) per episode.

Signature of Health Care Provider _____ Date: _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Definitions of a Serious Health Condition (See 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.113-.115)
Inpatient Care <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility.• Inpatient care includes any period of incapacity or any subsequent treatment in connection with the overnight stay.
Continuing Treatment by a Health Care Provider (any one or more of the following)
Incapacity Plus Treatment: A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days, and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition, that also involves either: <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Two or more in-person visits to a health care provider for treatment within 30 days of the first day of incapacity unless extenuating circumstances exist. The first visit must be within seven days of the first day of incapacity; or,o At least one in-person visit to a health care provider for treatment within seven days of the first day of incapacity, which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider. For example, the health provider might prescribe a course of prescription medication or therapy requiring special equipment.
Pregnancy: Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care.
Chronic Conditions: Any period of incapacity due to or treatment for a chronic serious health condition, such as diabetes, asthma, migraine headaches. A chronic serious health condition is one which requires visits to a health care provider (or nurse supervised by the provider) at least twice a year and recurs over an extended period of time. A chronic condition may cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity.
Permanent or Long-term Conditions: A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective, but which requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider, such as Alzheimer's disease or the terminal stages of cancer.
Conditions Requiring Multiple Treatments: Restorative surgery after an accident or other injury; or, a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days if the patient did not receive the treatment.

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If submitted, it is mandatory for employers to retain a copy of this disclosure in their records for three years. 29 U.S.C. § 2616; 29 C.F.R. § 825.500. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Department of Labor estimates that it will take an average of 15 minutes for respondents to complete this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

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