

HIGH PEAKS HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE INC.

STATE OF NEW YORK
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD
NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE
New York State Disability Benefits

Disability Benefits For Employees

1. If you are unable to work because of an illness or injury, not work-related, you may be entitled to receive weekly benefits from your employer, his or her insurance carrier, or from the Special Fund for Disability Benefits.
2. To claim benefits you must file a claim form within 30 days from the first date of your disability, but in no event more than 26 weeks from such date.
3. Complete claim form DB-450 (Notice and Proof of Claim for Disability Benefits)
You may obtain the form from your employer, his or her insurance carrier, your health provider, any Unemployment Insurance Office, the Workers' Compensation Board's website (www.wcb.ny.gov) or any office of the Board.
IMPORTANT: Before filing your claim, your health provider must complete the "Health Care Provider's Statement" on the form showing your period of disability.
 - If you are employed, or have been unemployed for four weeks or less when your disability begins, send the completed form to your employer or the insurance carrier named below.
 - If you have been unemployed more than four weeks when your disability begins, send the completed form to the Workers' Compensation Board, Disability Benefits Bureau, 328 State Street, Schenectady, New York 12305.
4. You are entitled to be treated by any physician, chiropractor, dentist, nurse-midwife, podiatrist or psychologist of your choice. However, unlike workers' compensation, your medical bills will not be paid unless your employer and/or union provide for the payment of such bills under a Disability Benefits Plan or Agreement.
5. If you are ill or injured during the time you are receiving Unemployment Insurance Benefits, file a claim for Disability Benefits as soon as you sustain the injury or illness, by following the instructions outlined above.
6. If you are out of work in excess of seven days, your employer is required to send you a Disability Benefits Statement of Rights (Form DB-271S).
7. You may not take disability benefits at the same time as paid family leave benefits. The total amount of disability and paid family leave in a 52 week period cannot exceed 26 weeks.
8. Other information about disability benefits may be obtained by writing or calling the Workers' Compensation Board.

Standard Security Life Insurance Company of NY
488 Madison Avenue – Suite 803
New York, NY 10022
646-509-2100

Policy #: R85079-000 Effective From: 4/1/2016 To: 6/30/2024

☒ Statutory ☐ Under a Plan or Agreement

Class(es) of Employees Covered:

ALL ELIGIBLE UNDER DBL LAW

NYS Workers' Compensation Board
Customer Service: (877) 632-4996
www.wcb.ny.gov

PRESCRIBED BY THE CHAIR, WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD
THIS NOTICE MUST BE POSTED CONSPICUOUSLY IN AND ABOUT THE EMPLOYER'S PLACE OR PLACES OF BUSINESS.
Employers must post DB-120 so that all classes of their employees know who will pay their benefits.

**STATE OF NEW YORK - WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD
ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK - JUNTA DE COMPENSACION OBRERA**

NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE

AVISO DE CUMPLIMIENTO

TO EMPLOYEES

A EMPLEADOS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYEES WHO ARE INJURED OR SUFFER AN OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE WHILE WORKING.

INFORMACION IMPORTANTE PARA EMPLEADOS QUE SEAN LESIONADOS O SUFRAN UNA ENFERMEDAD OCUPACIONAL MIENTRAS TRABAJAN.

1. By posting this notice and information concerning your rights as an injured worker, your employer is in compliance with the Workers' Compensation Law.
2. If you do not notify your employer within 30 days of the date of your injury your claim may be disallowed, so do so immediately.
3. You are entitled to obtain any necessary medical treatment and should do so immediately.
4. You may choose any doctor, podiatrist, chiropractor or psychologist referred by a medical doctor that accepts NY State Workers' Compensation patients and is Board authorized. However, if your employer is involved in a certified preferred provider organization (PPO) you must first be treated by a provider chosen by your employer and your employer must give you a written statement of your rights concerning further medical care.
5. You should tell your doctor to file copies of medical reports concerning your claim with the Workers' Compensation Board and with your employer's insurance company, which is indicated at the bottom of this form.
6. You may be entitled to lost time benefits if your work-related injury keeps you from work for more than seven days, compels you to work at lower wages or results in permanent disability to any part of your body. You may be entitled to rehabilitation services if you need help returning to work.
7. You should not pay any medical providers directly. They should send their bills to your employer's insurance carrier. If there is a dispute, the provider must wait until the Board makes a decision before it attempts to collect payment from you. If you do not pursue your claim or the Board rules that your injury is not work-related, you may be responsible for the payment of the bills.
8. You are entitled to be represented by an attorney or licensed representative, but it is not required. If you do hire a representative do not pay him/her directly. Any fee will be set by the Board and will be deducted from your award.
9. If you have difficulty in obtaining a claim form or need help in filling it out, or if you have any other questions or problems about a job-related injury, contact any office of the Workers' Compensation Board.

1. Su patrono está cumpliendo la Ley de Compensación Obrera cuando despliega este comunicado concerniente a sus derechos como trabajador lesionado.
2. Si usted no notifica a su patrono dentro del término de 30 días de haber sufrido su lesión su reclamación podría ser desestimada, por eso notifique inmediatamente.
3. Usted tiene derecho a recibir cualquier tratamiento médico necesario relacionado con su lesión y debe gestionarlo inmediatamente.
4. Para el tratamiento de cualquier lesión o enfermedad relacionada con el trabajo, usted puede escoger cualquier médico, podiatra, quiropractico ó psicologo (si es referido por un médico autorizado) que esté autorizado y acepte pacientes de la Junta de Compensación Obrera. Sin embargo, si su patrono está autorizado a participar en una organización certificada de proveedores preferidos (PPO), usted deberá obtener tratamiento inicial para cualquier lesión o enfermedad relacionada con el trabajo de la correspondiente entidad. Patronos que participen en cualquiera de estos programas establecidos por ley están obligados a proveer a sus empleados notificación escrita explicando sus derechos y obligaciones bajo el programa a que esté acogido.
5. Usted deberá requerir de su Médico que radique copias de los informes médicos de su caso en la Junta de Compensación Obrera y en la compañía de seguros de su patrono, que se indica al final de esta forma.
6. Usted tiene derecho a compensación si su lesión relacionada con el trabajo le impide trabajar por más de siete días, le obliga a trabajar a sueldo más bajo ó resulta en incapacidad permanente de cualquier parte de su cuerpo. Usted puede tener derecho a servicios de rehabilitación si necesita ayuda para regresar al trabajo.
7. No pague a ningún proveedor médico directamente por tratamiento de su lesión o enfermedad relacionada con el trabajo. Ellos deben enviar sus facturas al asegurador de su patrono. Si el caso es cuestionado, el proveedor deberá esperar hasta que la Junta decida el caso, antes de iniciar gestión de cobro alguna.
8. No es obligatorio el estar representado en ninguno de los procedimientos de la Junta, pero es un derecho que usted tiene, el estar representado por abogado ó por representante licenciado si usted así lo desea. Si es representado, no pague al abogado ó al representante licenciado. Cuando la Junta decida su caso, los honorarios serán determinados por la Junta y descontados de sus beneficios.
9. Si tiene dificultad en conseguir un formulario de reclamación o necesita ayuda para llenarlo ó tiene dudas sobre cualquier situación relacionada con una lesión o enfermedad comuníquese con la oficina mas cercana de la Junta.

**NYS Workers' Compensation Board
Centralized Mailing
PO Box 5205
Binghamton, NY 13902-5205
Customer Service Line: 877-632-4996**

**CHAIR/PRESIDENTE
Workers' Compensation Board**

Workers' Compensation Benefits, when due, will be paid by (Los beneficios de Compensación Obrera, cuando debidos, serán pagados por):

NYSIF	
PO Box 66699; Albany, NY 12206	
(888) 875-5790	
Effective From 02/13/2023	To cancellation
(En Vigor Desde)	(Hasta cancellation)
Policy No. A 1032 616-3	
(Poliza No.)	

Name of employer (Nombre de patrono)

**HIGH PEAKS HOSPICE & PALLIATIVECARE INC
PO BOX 840SARANAC LAKE NY 12983**

**THIS NOTICE MUST BE POSTED
CONSPICUOUSLY IN AND ABOUT THE
EMPLOYER'S PLACE OR PLACES OF BUSINESS.**



Personnel Policies and Procedures

LEAVE, HOLIDAY AND OTHER ABSENCES	Policy #: HPH132
NHPCO Standard(s): WE 4	BOD Review/Approval 05/08/18
Regulatory Citation(s): 10 NYCRR 794.3(i), JUD Section 519, Paid Family Leave	

POLICY

High Peaks Hospice (HPH) supports a leave program in order to recognize employees' need for time away from work. This program provides time off with pay for personal needs, vacations, holidays, and short-term illness. Use of Paid Leave is not required for time off for bereavement, jury duty, or military service.

Except in emergency situations, the payment and scheduling of any leave is subject to prior management approval based on the workload and needs of the office. Requests of more than two consecutive weeks of paid leave will be an exception and must be approved by the supervisor based on workload and needs of HPH. Supervisors and employees are jointly responsible for the annual scheduling and use of leave.

PROCEDURE

A. PAID TIME OFF:

1. "Paid Time Off (PTO)" falls into three categories:
 - a. Paid Leave for personal needs and vacation
 - b. Sick Leave for personal and family illnesses, scheduled physician and dental visits; short-term illnesses
 - c. Holiday Leave for official holiday observances when HPH offices are closed.
2. ACCRUAL OF PAID AND SICK LEAVE: All regular full-time and part-time employees will accrue Paid and Sick Leave each pay period on a prorated basis
 - a. Paid Leave benefits are accrued based on length of continuous service; and budgeted hours in a pay period for a particular position.
 - i. The accrual percentage rate is applied to budgeted hours, for the position which an employee is hired. For example: A maximum of 75 hours per pay period for regular full-time employees working week-day hours and 128 hours per pay period for regular full-time After Hours positions
 - ii. The accrued rate for regular full-time and part-time employees is based on continuous full time service adjusted for Leaves of Absence. Adjustments are made on a day-for-day basis.
 - iii. Accrual of Paid Leave begins immediately upon employment, but will not be available until after one month of employment. Accrual of paid leave is based on longevity of the employee.

- iv. An employee cannot accumulate more than 150% of their Annual Paid Leave Accrual. Once the maximum accrual has been reached additional paid time off will not be accrued until the employee's Paid Leave "bank" falls below the maximum accrual allowed.
 - v. Accumulated Paid Leave may be compensated to the employee upon termination.
 - vi. Any employee failing to give 2 weeks' notice of termination of employment (Per Personnel Policy "Termination of Employment HPH142") will forfeit all accrued Paid Leave.
- b. Paid Sick Leave is accrued based on an accrual percentage rate of budgeted hours in a pay period for the position which an employee is hired. For example 75 hours for regular full-time or 128 hours for regular full-time After Hours positions.
- i. Accrual of sick leave begins immediately upon employment.
 - ii. The Sick Leave account balance can be carried forward from one calendar year to the next with a maximum accrual of 225 hours. Any employee with a current hire date prior to December 31, 2018 will continue to accrue Sick Leave without a maximum limitation.
 - iii. Sick Leave balances are not compensated to the employee upon termination.
- c. Accrual and use of paid and sick leave will be recorded on the employee's time sheet. Use and accrual of paid and sick leave is maintained on each employee by the electronic time sheet.

TO CALCULATE PAID LEAVE: In the schedule below, days per year and hours per month are given as an illustration for a full-time employee working 75 hours per pay period.

FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE: Paid Leave

Length of Employment	Accrual Rate Per Month	Days Per Year
0-2 Years	7.5 hours	12
3-5 Years	11.25 hours	18
6-10 Years	15 hours	24

FOR PART-TIME AND AFTER HOURS EMPLOYEES: Paid Leave will be calculated on an equivalent prorated basis

TO CALCULATE SICK LEAVE:

For full-time employees Sick Leave is earned at the rate of 7.5 hours per month, with a maximum of 12 days per year. Part Time and After Hours employees' Sick Leave will be calculated on an equivalent prorated basis.

3. GUIDELINES FOR USING PAID OR SICK LEAVE

- a. Requests for Paid and/or Sick Leave should be submitted on the "Leave Request" form four weeks in advance. The supervisor will submit the approved "Leave Request" to the Administrative Office.
- b. An employee may be eligible to receive payment for Paid Leave in addition to pay for hours worked when previously scheduled and approved Paid Leave is canceled due to critical needs of HPH. This requires the approval of the supervisor
- c. Requests of more than two consecutive weeks of Paid Leave will be an exception and must be approved by the supervisor based on workload and needs of HPH.
- d. If Paid Leave is available, it must be used prior to non-medical leave without pay.
- e. The employee is responsible to monitor their accruals and work with the supervisor to utilize Paid Leave annually.

4. ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES FOR SICK LEAVE

- a. Employees may "Call-in" sick or leave work early due to sickness without completing a "Paid Leave" form for using Sick Leave. However, when an unscheduled absence due to sickness extends beyond two workdays, a note from the employee's physician allowing the employee to return to work is needed.
- b. After seven calendar days absence for sickness Disability may be used. See Personnel Policy "Disability HPH 113".
- c. Failure to "call in" in accordance with policy may result in denial of Sick Leave. Sick Leave that has not been scheduled in advance will be considered unscheduled Sick Leave.

5. SICK LEAVE ABUSE

- a. **DEFINITION OF SICK LEAVE ABUSE:** An employee is responsible for the appropriate use of sick leave. Sick leave abuse occurs when an employee uses sick leave for unauthorized purposes or misrepresents the actual reason for charging an absence to sick leave. Abuse may also occur when an employee establishes a pattern of sick leave usage over a period of time such as the day before or after a holiday, on Mondays and Fridays, after paydays, any one specific day, half-day, or a continued pattern of maintaining zero or near zero leave balances. Absences in excess of 6 days in a 12 month period unless consecutive days due to a single illness, are grounds for investigating possible sick leave abuse.
- b. **DETERMINATION OF SICK LEAVE ABUSE:** The supervisor is responsible to determine if a problem exists and take corrective action. Red flags include excessive absenteeism, observable pattern of absences, substitution of sick leave for vacation leave, etc.
- c. **CORRECTIVE ACTION:** The supervisor will refer to Personnel Policy "Disciplinary Procedures HPH114" for further information on corrective actions.

6. OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS

- a. HPH provides for seven (7) paid Holidays during the calendar year. HPH recognizes the following "Holidays" as times when the offices are closed and the patient care is covered on an "on-call" basis.

New Years Day (January 1)

Memorial Day (May as federally observed)

Independence Day (July 4th)

Labor Day (September as federally observed)
Thanksgiving Day
Thanksgiving Friday
Christmas Day (December 25)

- b. HPH provides for four (4) paid Floating Holidays during the calendar year. HPH recognizes the following "Floating Holidays" as times when the offices remain open and patient care is covered as on any other business day. The following "Floating Holidays" may be taken the day of the holiday or any time following the holiday during the year.

Martin Luther King Day (January as federally observed)
Presidents Day (February as federally observed)
Columbus Day (October as federally observed)
Veterans Day (November as federally observed)

- i. Employees wishing to take a floating holiday on the actual holiday will complete a "Leave Request" form for approval by their supervisor.
 - ii. Employees wishing to take the floating holiday on another day will complete a "Leave Request" form for approval by their supervisor
 - iii. Employees may take the floating holiday off with pay or sell it back to HPH at the end of the year.
- b. The holidays that are fixed (New Years, Independence Day, and Christmas) may fall on weekends. In this case, if the holiday falls on Saturday, the Friday before will be observed. If the holiday falls on Sunday, the following Monday will be observed.
- c. If a holiday falls during an employee's approved vacation period, the employee will be paid for the holiday and will not be charged Paid Leave for a vacation day for the day the holiday is observed.
- d. Employees on leave of absence for any reason when a holiday is scheduled are ineligible for holiday benefits.
- e. Each year a list of the holiday dates is published by the Administrative Office. A copy must be provided to the After Hours Answering Service.
- f. Full time After Hours employees may take the holiday off or sell it back to HPH at the end of the year.

CALCULATING PAID HOLIDAY TIME: Holiday Leave is calculated the same as Sick Leave, For Full-Time employees Holiday Pay is earned at the rate of 7.5 hours per holiday. Part Time and After Hours employees Holiday pay will be calculated on an equivalent prorated basis.

7. DONATION OF SICK AND PAID LEAVE:

Employees are provided an opportunity to confidentially donate up to 10% of their accrued paid and sick leave to another employee who is experiencing serious illness and has used up their leave time.

- a. The supervisor will review with the employee the need for donated time. The recipient must have no Paid Leave or Sick Leave accrued to receive donated hours.
- b. Employees who wish to donate time will complete a "Leave Donation" form and submit it to the supervisor who will then sign and send it to the Administrative Office before payroll processing.

- c. Time will be donated on an hour-for-hour basis regardless of the rate of pay of the donator. A minimum of one hour must be donated and all donated time must be in whole hour increments.
- d. Employees may donate up to ten percent (10%) of their accumulated hours, but no more than what they have actually accrued at the time of the donation.
- e. Donations will be applied to the recipient employee on a first-donated, first-used basis, and any unneeded donated time will be returned to the donor.

8. OTHER PAID ABSENCES:

- a. **BEREAVEMENT LEAVE:** In order to provide support during a very difficult time, HPH provides a paid leave of absence to employees experiencing the death of a family member including: a spouse, parent, sibling, sibling-in-law, child, grandparents, grandchild, mother-in-law, or father-in-law, or other significant relationships as approved by the supervisor.
 - i. Regular full-time employees may be granted up to five (5) days paid bereavement time per death
 - ii. Regular part-time employees will receive bereavement leave prorated, based upon their budgeted hours per pay period, compared to full-time hours.
 - iii. Use of Bereavement Leave will not result in a deduction from the employee's Paid Leave accrued balance unless an extension is approved.
 - iv. With the supervisor's approval, the employee may use any accrued paid leave for additional time off as necessary due to the death.
 - v. The employee must have been continuously employed for 30 days prior to the death of the immediate family member to receive paid time off for bereavement leave.
 - vi. Paid Leave time must be used for bereavements other than those listed above for the same purpose and periods of time stated above.
 - vii. A request for Bereavement Leave must be made to and approved by the supervisor, utilizing the "Leave Request" form.

b. **JURY DUTY**

HPH encourages employees selected for jury duty to fulfill this obligation and responsibility as citizens of the community. HPH will support these actions by providing full time and regularly scheduled part-time employees who serve on juries with their regular rate of pay for up to 30 days per calendar year.

- i. Employees who receive notice of selection to serve as a juror should promptly submit a copy to their supervisor.
- ii. The supervisor will assist the employee in meeting the request of the court should a postponement be necessary.
- iii. Jury duty pay is computed on an hourly basis.
 - a) An employee is eligible to receive regular pay for the hours they were scheduled to work but which they were unable to work because of jury duty.
 - b) An employee is compensated based on current legal provisions as outlined by the State of New York. The Executive Director will have current information.
 - c) The employee must report for work on a scheduled work day when the jury is not in session.

- d) The employee must obtain documentation from the court to indicate the days of jury service and provide a copy to the supervisor to receive compensation.

B. PAID FAMILY LEAVE: HPH must provide an employee funded insurance for Paid Family Leave (PFL) for employees who meet the State requirements. A deduction from pay is required to cover this insurance. It is based on a rate applied to the wage rate per pay period.

1. Notification for desire to apply for PFL is required 30 days in advance if possible.
2. A Request for Paid Family Leave form (Form PFL-1) is required to be filled out and submitted to HPH
3. Forms must be submitted to the insurance carrier as required.
4. Insurance carrier has 18 days from receipt of completed request to pay or deny the request.

C. UNPAID LEAVE

“Leave of Absence” is an approved unpaid absence granted to eligible employees with whom HPH desires to maintain a continuing relationship.

1. TYPES OF LEAVES OF ABSENCE

- a. **MEDICAL** - may be requested by eligible employees because of an occupational or non-occupational injury or illness, or because of pregnancy. Employees may be collecting NYS Disability benefits or Workers Compensation. Disability and Workers Compensation is covered under a separate Personnel Policy “Disability HPH113”.
- b. **SHORT-TERM** - may be granted to eligible employees who need less than 30 days away from work. Unless otherwise notified, employees granted a Short-term Leave will not be permanently replaced and will return to their previous position.
- c. **PERSONAL** - may be granted to eligible employees to enable the handling of urgent business or to resolve important personal problems, child care or family issues which cannot be resolved in less than 30 days. Approval of the request is dependent upon the ability of HPH to accommodate the absence of the employee.
- d. **MILITARY LEAVE:** HPH will grant to all full-time and part-time employees necessary time to complete an active duty commitment consistent with applicable law or to meet their military obligations in the Active Reserve or National Guard. HPH does not provide compensation during this time of active duty and/or training.
 - i. Employees requesting Military Leave must submit a copy of their military orders or training schedule to their supervisor at least three months in advance of the scheduled active duty time, or at the earliest possible time.
 - ii. The employee is required to present to the supervisor proof of time spent on active duty and pay received.
 - iii. Employees may, but are not required to, use available Paid Leave benefits during a Military Leave.
 - iv. HPH will continue the employee's access to existing health insurance coverage; however, some benefits may exclude coverage for acts of war. The employee will be responsible for remitting customary benefit payments to the Administration Office.

- v. Employees will not be terminated, denied promotions, or any other employment benefit or advantage because of obligations arising out of their annual reserve training or because of absences from work that result from such training.
- vi. Employees must report for work at the beginning of the next regularly scheduled working period following release from training duty or be subject to termination.
- vii. Employees required to be absent from work because of an active duty commitment, other than annual training, are subject to the following:
 - a) Placement on an unpaid Military Leave of Absence if the period of active duty does not exceed five (5) years.
 - b) In the event the active duty period exceeds five (5) years, the employee will be terminated subject to rehire in accordance with applicable laws regarding reemployment of veterans.
 - c) Entitlement after reinstatement to the same seniority, status, benefits, and pay increases they would have attained had they not been absent.
- viii. Employees must apply for reinstatement within 90 days after release from active duty or discharge from hospitalization and must be qualified to perform the duties of their former position.

2. GUIDELINES FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCES:

- a. HPH is to consider all requests for leaves of absence, when the absence of the employee will not be detrimental to the ability of HPH to fulfill its responsibilities. Approval of requested leaves of absence are subject to all conditions of this policy including completion of 90 days of continuous employment, classification as full or part time, and intent to return to work following the leave.
- b. The maximum length of a Short-term Leave is 30 days. The maximum length of all other Leaves of Absence is usually three (3) months. In the event of extenuating circumstances, one extension for another three (3) month period may be permitted.
- c. HPH will continue to pay its share of the health insurance premiums for the employee while the employee is on any unpaid leave of absence from HPH. It is the employee's responsibility to pay the appropriate premium through direct remittance to the Administrative Office for their coverage and that of their dependents for the entire leave period. Failure to do so may result in loss of coverage and possible refusal by the insurance carrier to allow coverage to be reinstated.
- d. Reinstatement of an employee returning from Leave of Absence is subject to the availability of an authorized position for which that returning employee is qualified. Every reasonable attempt will be made to place the employee in the same or comparable position, with a comparable rate of pay. If authorized positions are not available within 30 days of intended return, employment will be terminated and the employee will be eligible for rehire.
- e. In most circumstances, Paid Leave benefits must be used before beginning a non-medical Leave of Absence.
- f. A request for Leave of Absence must be submitted in writing by the employee at least two weeks in advance. The two-week requirement may be waived in an emergency.
- g. A request for Leave of Absence must be approved by the employee's supervisor and the Executive Director and include a specific reason, beginning date, and an

- approximate return to work date. To enable HPH to meet its staffing needs, requests for medical Leaves of Absence must be supported by a statement from the employee's physician including probable return to work date or statement that such a date is uncertain.
- h. The employee must confirm the return to work date at least two weeks in advance
 - i. Failing to return to work on or before the date specified will be grounds for dismissal. Extensions may be granted for compelling reasons but must be approved in advance by the supervisor and Executive Director. Employees on a medical leave must provide HPH with written authorization from their physician before they will be allowed to return to work.
 - j. Upon return to work, benefit eligibility and performance evaluation dates will be adjusted for the total leave time on a day-for-day basis.
 - k. All benefit accruals, including paid time off and seniority will be suspended during the leave and will resume upon return to active employment.

LAST REVIEW DATE: CFO 11/08/17, BOD 03/26/18, Operations Mgr 02/26/19

LAST UPDATED: Comp Coord 08/01/18, 02/26/19, SLT 12/18, EX Dir 02/26/19

BOARD APPROVAL: May 8, 2018



Paid Family Leave

NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

Paid Family Leave Insurance
Coverage Provided by:

Standard Security Life Insurance Co. of NY

Covering Employees of:

HIGH PEAKS HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE INC.

Paid Family Leave is insurance that provides job protected paid time off to:

- **Bond** with a newly born, adopted, or fostered child
- **Care** for a family member with a serious health condition
- **Assist** loved ones when a family member is deployed abroad on active military service

How to File:

- **Notify** your employer at least 30 days in advance, if foreseeable, or as soon as possible
- **Submit** the Request for Paid Family Leave form to your employer
- **Complete** and attach the additional documentation as instructed on the request form and submit to the insurance carrier listed below

Employers should NEVER discriminate or retaliate against anyone who requests or takes Paid Family Leave

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HELP:
Visit **ny.gov/PaidFamilyLeave**
or call **(844) 337-6303**

You can get forms to take Paid Family Leave from

- *Your employer,*
- *The insurance carrier below, or*
- *ny.gov/PaidFamilyLeave*

Standard Security Life Insurance Company of NY
488 Madison Avenue – Suite 803
New York, NY 10022
646-509-2100

Policy #: R85079-000

Effective From: 1/1/2018 To: 6/30/2024

☒ Statutory ☐ Under a Plan or Agreement

Class(es) of Employees Covered:
ALL ELIGIBLE UNDER DBL LAW

NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE

PRESCRIBED BY THE CHAIR, WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD

THIS NOTICE MUST BE POSTED CONSPICUOUSLY IN AND ABOUT THE EMPLOYER'S PLACE OR PLACES OF BUSINESS.

Your Employee Rights Under the Family and Medical Leave Act

What is FMLA leave?

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) is a federal law that provides eligible employees with **job-protected leave** for qualifying family and medical reasons. The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) enforces the FMLA for most employees.

Eligible employees can take **up to 12 workweeks** of FMLA leave in a 12-month period for:

- The birth, adoption or foster placement of a child with you,
- Your serious mental or physical health condition that makes you unable to work,
- To care for your spouse, child or parent with a serious mental or physical health condition, and
- Certain qualifying reasons related to the foreign deployment of your spouse, child or parent who is a military servicemember.

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

You have the right to use FMLA leave in **one block of time**. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, you may take FMLA leave **intermittently in separate blocks of time, or on a reduced schedule** by working less hours each day or week. Read Fact Sheet #28M(c) for more information.

FMLA leave is **not paid leave**, but you may choose, or be required by your employer, to use any employer-provided paid leave if your employer's paid leave policy covers the reason for which you need FMLA leave.

Am I eligible to take FMLA leave?

You are an **eligible employee** if **all** of the following apply:

- You work for a covered employer,
- You have worked for your employer at least 12 months,
- You have at least 1,250 hours of service for your employer during the 12 months before your leave, and
- Your employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of your work location.

Airline flight crew employees have different "hours of service" requirements.

You work for a **covered employer** if **one** of the following applies:

- You work for a private employer that had at least 50 employees during at least 20 workweeks in the current or previous calendar year,
- You work for an elementary or public or private secondary school, or
- You work for a public agency, such as a local, state or federal government agency. Most federal employees are covered by Title II of the FMLA, administered by the Office of Personnel Management.

How do I request FMLA leave?

Generally, **to request FMLA leave you must:**

- Follow your employer's normal policies for requesting leave,
- Give notice at least 30 days before your need for FMLA leave, or
- If advance notice is not possible, give notice as soon as possible.

You **do not have to share a medical diagnosis** but must provide enough information to your employer so they can determine whether the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. You **must also inform your employer if FMLA leave was previously taken** or approved for the same reason when requesting additional leave.

Your **employer may request certification** from a health care provider to verify medical leave and may request certification of a qualifying exigency.

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.

State employees may be subject to certain limitations in pursuit of direct lawsuits regarding leave for their own serious health conditions. Most federal and certain congressional employees are also covered by the law but are subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management or Congress.

What does my employer need to do?

If you are eligible for FMLA leave, your **employer must:**

- Allow you to take job-protected time off work for a qualifying reason,
- Continue your group health plan coverage while you are on leave on the same basis as if you had not taken leave, and
- Allow you to return to the same job, or a virtually identical job with the same pay, benefits and other working conditions, including shift and location, at the end of your leave.

Your **employer cannot interfere with your FMLA rights** or threaten or punish you for exercising your rights under the law. For example, your employer cannot retaliate against you for requesting FMLA leave or cooperating with a WHD investigation.

After becoming aware that your need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, your **employer must confirm whether you are eligible** or not eligible for FMLA leave. If your employer determines that you are eligible, your **employer must notify you in writing:**

- About your FMLA rights and responsibilities, and
- How much of your requested leave, if any, will be FMLA-protected leave.

Where can I find more information?

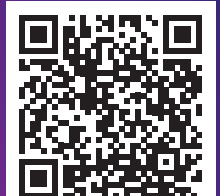
Call **1-866-487-9243** or visit **dol.gov/fmla** to learn more.

If you believe your rights under the FMLA have been violated, you may file a complaint with WHD or file a private lawsuit against your employer in court. **Scan the QR code to learn about our WHD complaint process.**



WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

SCAN ME





THIS ESTABLISHMENT IS SUBJECT TO THE NEW YORK STATE HUMAN RIGHTS LAW (EXECUTIVE LAW, ARTICLE 15)

DISCRIMINATION BASED UPON AGE, RACE, CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MILITARY STATUS, SEX, PREGNANCY, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, DISABILITY OR MARITAL STATUS IS PROHIBITED BY THE NEW YORK STATE HUMAN RIGHTS LAW. SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR HARASSMENT BASED UPON ANY OF THESE PROTECTED CLASSES ALSO IS PROHIBITED.

ALL EMPLOYERS (until February 8, 2020, only employers with 4 or more employees are covered), EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES, LABOR ORGANIZATIONS AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAMS

Also prohibited: discrimination in employment on the basis of Sabbath observance or religious practices; hairstyles associated with race (also applies to all areas listed below); prior arrest or conviction record; predisposing genetic characteristics; familial status; pregnancy-related conditions; domestic violence victim status.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities and pregnancy-related conditions including lactation may be required. A reasonable accommodation is an adjustment to a job or work environment that enables a person with a disability to perform the essential functions of a job in a reasonable manner.

Also covered: domestic workers are protected from harassment and retaliation; interns and nonemployees working in the workplace (for example temp or contract workers) are protected from all discrimination described above.

RENTAL, LEASE OR SALE OF HOUSING, LAND AND COMMERCIAL SPACE, INCLUDING ACTIVITIES OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALES PEOPLE

Also prohibited: discrimination on the basis of lawful source of income (for example housing vouchers, disability benefits, child support); familial status (families with children or being pregnant); prior arrest or sealed conviction; commercial boycotts or blockbusting
Reasonable accommodations and modifications for persons with disabilities may also be required.

Does not apply to:

- (1) rental of an apartment in an owner-occupied two-family house
- (2) restrictions of all rooms in a housing accommodation to individuals of the same sex
- (3) rental of a room by the occupant of a house or apartment
- (4) sale, rental, or lease of accommodations of housing exclusively to persons 55 years of age or older, and the spouse of such persons

ALL CREDIT TRANSACTIONS INCLUDING FINANCING FOR PURCHASE, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF HOUSING

PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION SUCH AS RESTAURANTS, HOTELS, HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL OFFICES, CLUBS, PARKS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Exception:
Age is not a covered classification relative to public accommodations.
Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities may also be required.

EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

All public schools and private nonprofit schools, at all education levels, excluding those run by religious organizations.

ADVERTISING AND APPLICATIONS RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT, REAL ESTATE, PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION AND CREDIT TRANSACTIONS MAY NOT EXPRESS ANY DISCRIMINATION

If you wish to file a formal complaint with the Division of Human Rights, you must do so within one year after the discrimination occurred. The Division's services are provided free of charge.

If you wish to file a complaint in State Court, you may do so within three years of the discrimination. You may not file both with the Division and the State Court.

Retaliation for filing a complaint or opposing discriminatory practices is prohibited. You may file a complaint with the Division if you have been retaliated against.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, WRITE OR CALL THE DIVISION'S NEAREST OFFICE. HEADQUARTERS:
ONE FORDHAM PLAZA, 4TH FLOOR, BRONX, NY 10458

ESTE ESTABLECIMIENTO ESTÁ SUJETO A LA LEY DE DERECHOS HUMANOS DEL ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK (LEY EJECUTIVA, SECCIÓN 15)

LA LEY DE DERECHOS HUMANOS DEL ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK PROHÍBE LA DISCRIMINACIÓN POR EDAD, RAZA, CREDO, COLOR, ORIGEN NACIONAL, ORIENTACIÓN SEXUAL, ESTATUS MILITAR, SEXO, EMBARAZO, IDENTIDAD O EXPRESIÓN DE GÉNERO, DISCAPACIDAD O ESTADO CIVIL. TAMBIÉN ESTÁ PROHIBIDO EL ACOSO SEXUAL O EL ACOSO POR CUALQUIERA DE ESTAS CLASES PROTEGIDAS.

TODOS LOS EMPLEADORES (hasta el 8 de febrero de 2020, solo los empleadores de cuatro o más personas), AGENCIAS DE EMPLEO, ORGANIZACIONES DE TRABAJO Y PROGRAMAS DE CAPACITACIÓN DE APRENDICES

Asimismo, está prohibida la discriminación en el empleo sobre la base de la observancia del Shabat o prácticas religiosas; peinados asociados con la raza (también se aplica a las áreas enumeradas a continuación) arresto previo o antecedentes penales; las características genéticas predisponentes; el estado civil; las condiciones relacionadas con el embarazo.

Es posible que sea necesario hacer acomodos razonables para personas con discapacidades y condiciones relacionadas con el embarazo incluyendo lactación. Un arreglo razonable es una adaptación a un trabajo o entorno laboral que permita que una persona con discapacidad realice las tareas esenciales de un trabajo de manera razonable.

También están cubiertos: trabajadores domésticos están protegidos en casos acoso y represalias; internos y no empleados cuales trabajan en el lugar de trabajo (por ejemplo trabajadores temporarios o contratantes) están protegidos de toda discriminación descrita arriba.

ALQUILER, ARRENDAMIENTO O VENTA DE VIVIENDA, TERRENO O ESPACIO COMERCIAL INCLUYENDO ACTIVIDADES DE AGENTE DE BIENES RAÍCES Y VENDEDORES

También esta prohibido: la discriminación a base de fuente de ingreso legal (por ejemplo vales, beneficios de discapacidad, manutención de niños); estado familiar (familias con niños o en estado de embarazo); arresto previo o condena sellada; boicot comercial o acoso inmobiliario.
También es posible que sea necesario realizar modificaciones y arreglos razonables para personas con discapacidades.
Excepciones:
(1) alquiler de un apartamento en una casa para dos familias ocupada por el dueño
(2) restricciones de todas las habitaciones en una vivienda para individuos del mismo sexo
(3) alquiler de una habitación por parte del ocupante de una casa o apartamento
(4) venta, alquiler o arrendamiento de alojamiento en una casa exclusivamente a personas mayores de 55 años y al cónyuge de dichas personas

También se prohíbe: discriminación en vivienda sobre la base del estado civil (por ejemplo, familias con hijos).

TODAS TRANSACCIONES CREDITICIAS INCLUYENDO FINANCIAMIENTO PARA LA COMPRA, MANTENIMIENTO Y REPARACION DE VIVIENDAS

LUGARES DE ALOJAMIENTO PÚBLICO, COMO RESTAURANTES, HOTELES, HOSPITALES Y CONSULTORIOS MÉDICOS, CLUBS, PARQUES Y OFFICINAS DEL GOBIERNO.

Excepción:
La edad no es una clasificación cubierta respecto a los alojamientos públicos.
Es posible que sea necesario realizar arreglos razonables para personas con discapacidades.

INSTITUCIONES EDUCATIVAS

Todas las escuelas publicas y escuelas privadas sin ánimo de lucro, en todos los niveles, excluyendo escuelas dirigidas por organizaciones religiosas.

PUBLICIDAD Y SOLICITUDES RELACIONADAS CON EL EMPLEO, LOS INMUEBLES, LOS LUGARES DE ALOJAMIENTO PÚBLICO Y LAS TRANSACCIONES CREDITICIAS NO DEBEN EXPRESAR NINGUN ACTO DISCRIMINATORIO

Si desea presentar una demanda formal ante la División de Derechos Humanos, debe hacerlo dentro de un año desde que ocurra la discriminación. Los servicios de la División se ofrecen sin cargo.

Si desea presentar una demanda ante el Tribunal Estatal, puede hacerlo dentro de los tres años desde que ocurriera la discriminación. No puede presentar una demanda ante la División y ante el Tribunal Estatal.

Se prohíben las represalias por presentar una demanda u oponerse a prácticas discriminatorias. Puede presentar una demanda ante la División si sufrió represalias.

PARA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN, ESCRIBA O LLAME A LA OFICINA MÁS CERCANA DE LA DIVISIÓN. OFICINA CENTRAL:
ONE FORDHAM PLAZA. 4TH FLOOR, BRONX, NY 10458



VETERAN BENEFITS AND SERVICES

The following resources and hotlines are available at no-cost to help veterans understand their rights, protections, benefits, and accommodations:

dol.ny.gov/veteran-benefits-and-services

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE RESOURCES

All calls and texts are free and confidential

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Crisis

Line: www.veteranscrisisline.net

Call: 988, press 1 Text: 838255

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: www.veteranscrisisline.net

Call: 988 Text: 988

Crisis Textline:

Text: 741741 Chat: crisistextline.org

NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH):

www.omh.ny.gov

NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS):

www.oasas.ny.gov/hopeline

Call: 1-877-8-HOPENY (467469)

Text: HOPENY (467369)

TAX BENEFITS

NYS Department of Tax and Finance

- Information for military personnel and veterans: tax.ny.gov/pit/file/military_page.htm
- Property tax exemptions: tax.ny.gov/pit/property/exemption/vetexempt.htm

EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND TRAINING RESOURCES

Veteran Readiness and Employment

(VR&E) Program: www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab

New York State Civil Service Credits for Veterans Program: www.cs.ny.gov

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

NYS Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline:

Call: 800-942-6906 Text: 844-997-2121

NYS Workplace Sexual Harassment Hotline:

Call: 1-800-HARASS-3

NYS Department of Motor Vehicles:

- Veteran Status Designation Photo Document: dmv.ny.gov/more-info/veteran-status-designation-photo-document
- Veteran License Plate: dmv.ny.gov/plates/military-and-veterans

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Website: veterans.ny.gov
Help Line: 1-888-838-7697
Email: DVSInfo@veterans.ny.gov

Services: Legal, education, employment and volunteer, financial, health care, and more.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR VETERANS' PROGRAM

Website: dol.ny.gov/services-veterans
Help Line: 1-888-469-7365
Email: Ask.Vets@labor.ny.gov

Services: Workforce and training resources, unemployment insurance, the Experience Counts program, and more.



Department of
Veterans' Services

WE ARE YOUR DOL



Department
of Labor

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.

PUMP AT WORK The FLSA requires employers to provide reasonable break time for a nursing employee to express breast milk for their nursing child for one year after the child’s birth each time the employee needs to express breast milk. Employers must 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. Certain narrow exemptions also apply to the pump at work requirements.
- 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
www.dol.gov/agencies/whd





AS A WORKER, WHAT IS MY MINIMUM WAGE?

From 12/31/2022 to 12/30/2023, the New York State basic minimum wage is:

- \$15.00 per hour in New York City
- \$15.00 per hour in Long Island and Westchester County
- \$14.20 per hour in the Remainder of New York State

From 12/31/2022 to 12/30/2023, the minimum wage for fast food workers* is:

- \$15.00 per hour in all of New York City
- \$15.00 per hour in the rest of New York State

Private sector employees in the state, including domestic workers (in most cases), must receive the basic minimum wage.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The basic rate may change under rules known as “wage orders” that set minimum pay for jobs in:

- The hospitality, building service and farming industries
- All other industries and occupations

The wage orders set:

- Hourly rates
- Overtime rates
- Credits for meals and lodging, if supplied by the employer

Several wage orders set lower hourly minimum pay rates if workers regularly receive tips. These wage orders are published on the Department of Labor website at www.labor.ny.gov/minimumwage.

When workers take care of their own required uniforms, they must be paid an added amount over minimum wage.

Employees who do piecework should be paid at a rate that brings them to at least the basic minimum wage.

A standard work week is 40 hours. If employees work any hours beyond that, then the employer must pay them at 1½ times the regular wage.

AS AN EMPLOYER, HOW DO I COMPLY WITH ALL ASPECTS OF MINIMUM WAGE LAW?

The Labor Department helps collect back wages for workers who have not received the minimum wage. Employers that break the Minimum Wage Law may be subject to orders to pay:

- Back wages
- Interest
- Liquidated damages
- Fines

They may also be subject to criminal prosecution and penalties. The fines for violations can total up to 200 percent of the missing wages. They may also have to pay 16 percent interest on the unpaid wages.

Employers must place a Minimum Wage poster in their place of business where workers can see it.

Employers with questions or concerns about obeying the Minimum Wage Law can contact the Labor Department at **888-469-7365** for help, between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

*A fast food worker is any person employed or permitted to work at, or for, a fast food establishment by any employer where such person’s job duties include at least one of the following: customer service, cooking, food or drink preparation, delivery, security, stocking supplies or equipment, cleaning, or routine maintenance.



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 an OSHA inspection of your workplace if you believe there are unsafe or unhealthy conditions. OSHA will keep your name confidential. 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.
- 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.

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.
- Report to OSHA all work-related fatalities within 8 hours, and all inpatient hospitalizations, amputations and losses of an eye within 24 hours.
- 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.

FREE ASSISTANCE to identify and correct hazards is available to small and medium-sized employers, without citation or penalty, through OSHA-supported consultation programs in every state.





Know Your Rights: Workplace Discrimination is Illegal

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces Federal laws that protect you from discrimination in employment. If you believe you've been discriminated against at work or in applying for a job, the EEOC may be able to help.

Who is Protected?

- Employees (current and former), including managers and temporary employees
- Job applicants
- Union members and applicants for membership in a union

What Organizations are Covered?

- Most private employers
- State and local governments (as employers)
- Educational institutions (as employers)
- Unions
- Staffing agencies

What Types of Employment Discrimination are Illegal?

Under the EEOC's laws, an employer may not discriminate against you, regardless of your immigration status, on the bases of:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- National origin
- Sex (including pregnancy and related conditions, sexual orientation, or gender identity)
- Age (40 and older)
- Disability
- Genetic information (including employer requests for, or purchase, use, or disclosure of genetic tests, genetic services, or family medical history)
- Retaliation for filing a charge, reasonably opposing discrimination, or participating in a discrimination lawsuit, investigation, or proceeding.

What Employment Practices can be Challenged as Discriminatory?

All aspects of employment, including:

- Discharge, firing, or lay-off
- Harassment (including unwelcome verbal or physical conduct)
- Hiring or promotion
- Assignment
- Pay (unequal wages or compensation)
- Failure to provide reasonable accommodation for a disability or a sincerely-held religious belief, observance or practice
- Benefits
- Job training
- Classification
- Referral
- Obtaining or disclosing genetic information of employees
- Requesting or disclosing medical information of employees
- Conduct that might reasonably discourage someone from opposing discrimination, filing a charge, or participating in an investigation or proceeding.

What can You Do if You Believe Discrimination has Occurred?

Contact the EEOC promptly if you suspect discrimination. Do not delay, because there are strict time limits for filing a charge of discrimination (180 or 300 days, depending on where you live/work). You can reach the EEOC in any of the following ways:

Submit an inquiry through the EEOC's public portal:
<https://publicportal.eeoc.gov/Portal/Login.aspx>

Call 1-800-669-4000 (toll free)
1-800-669-6820 (TTY)
1-844-234-5122 (ASL video phone)

Visit an EEOC field office (information at www.eeoc.gov/field-office)

E-Mail info@eeoc.gov

Additional information about the EEOC, including information about filing a charge of discrimination, is available at www.eeoc.gov.



EMPLOYERS HOLDING FEDERAL CONTRACTS OR SUBCONTRACTS

The Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) enforces the nondiscrimination and affirmative action commitments of companies doing business with the Federal Government. If you are applying for a job with, or are an employee of, a company with a Federal contract or subcontract, you are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, National Origin

Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination by Federal contractors based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin, and requires affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment.

Asking About, Disclosing, or Discussing Pay

Executive Order 11246, as amended, protects applicants and employees of Federal contractors from discrimination based on inquiring about, disclosing, or discussing their compensation or the compensation of other applicants or employees.

Disability

Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, protects qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment by Federal contractors. 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 to the employer. 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.

Protected Veteran Status

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. 4212, prohibits employment discrimination against, and requires affirmative action to recruit, employ, and advance in employment, disabled veterans, recently separated veterans (i.e., within three years of discharge or release from active duty), active duty wartime or campaign badge veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans.

Retaliation

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

Any person who believes a contractor has violated its nondiscrimination or affirmative action obligations under OFCCP's authorities 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)

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services. OFCCP may also be contacted by submitting a question online to OFCCP's Help Desk at <https://ofccphelpdesk.dol.gov/s/>, or by calling an OFCCP regional or district office, listed in most telephone directories under U.S. Government, Department of Labor and on OFCCP's "Contact Us" webpage at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ofccp/contact>.

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.



NEW YORK STATE
DIVISION OF
**HUMAN
RIGHTS**
WWW.DHR.NY.GOV
ANDREW M. CUOMO, GOVERNOR

DISCRIMINATION REALLY HURTS.
IF YOU SEE IT OR EXPERIENCE IT, CALL US.
WE'RE HERE.

(718) 741-8400 (888) 392-3644

TTD (718) 741-8300

THIS ESTABLISHMENT IS SUBJECT TO THE NEW YORK STATE HUMAN RIGHTS LAW (EXECUTIVE LAW, ARTICLE 15)

DISCRIMINATION BASED ON AGE, RACE, CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MILITARY STATUS, SEX, DISABILITY, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM STATUS, OR MARITAL STATUS IS PROHIBITED BY THE NEW YORK STATE HUMAN RIGHTS LAW IN:

EMPLOYMENT, BY EMPLOYERS OF FOUR OR MORE PEOPLE, EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES, LABOR ORGANIZATIONS AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAMS

Also prohibited: discrimination in employment on the basis of Sabbath observance or religious practices; prior arrest or conviction record; predisposing genetic characteristics.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities may be required. A reasonable accommodation is an adjustment to a job or work environment that enables a person with a disability to perform the essential functions of a job in a reasonable manner.

RENTAL, LEASE OR SALE OF HOUSING, LAND AND COMMERCIAL SPACE

Exceptions:

- (1) rental of an apartment in an owner-occupied two-family house
- (2) restrictions of all rooms in a housing accommodation to individuals of the same sex
- (3) rental of a room by the occupant of a house or apartment
- (4) sale, rental, or lease of accommodations of housing exclusively to persons 55 years of age or older, and the spouse of such persons

Also prohibited: discrimination in housing on the basis of familial status (e.g. families with children)

Reasonable accommodations and modifications for persons with disabilities may also be required.

ACTIVITIES OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALES PEOPLE

Also prohibited: commercial boycotts and blockbusting.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION, RESORT OR AMUSEMENT SUCH AS RESTAURANTS, HOTELS, HOSPITALS, CLUBS AND MEDICAL OFFICES

Exception:

Age is not a covered classification relative to public accommodations. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities may also be required. (Effective January 1st, 2008.)

ADVERTISING AND APPLICATIONS RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT, REAL ESTATE, PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION AND CREDIT TRANSACTIONS

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS: NON-SECTARIAN, TAX EXEMPT, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

ALL CREDIT TRANSACTIONS INCLUDING FINANCING FOR PURCHASE, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF HOUSING

If you wish to file a formal complaint with the Division of Human Rights, you must do so within one year after the discrimination occurred. The Division's services are provided free of charge.

If you wish to file a complaint in State Court, you may do so within three years of the discrimination. You may not file both with the Division and the State Court.

Retaliation for filing a complaint or opposing discriminatory practices is prohibited. You may file a complaint with the Division if you have been retaliated against.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, WRITE OR CALL THE DIVISION'S NEAREST OFFICE.
HEADQUARTERS: ONE FORDHAM PLAZA, 4TH FLOOR, BRONX, NY 10458

ESTE ESTABLECIMIENTO ESTÁ SUJETO A LA LEY DE DERECHOS HUMANOS DEL ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK (LEY EJECUTIVA, ARTÍCULO 15)

LA DISCRIMINACIÓN BASADA EN EDAD, RAZA, CREDO, COLOR, NACIONALIDAD, ORIENTACIÓN SEXUAL, ESTADO MILITAR, SEXO, DISCAPACIDAD, ESTADO COMO VÍCTIMA DE VIOLENCIA DOMÉSTICA, O ESTADO CIVIL ESTÁ PROHIBIDA BAJO LA LEY DE DERECHOS HUMANOS DEL ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK EN:

EL EMPLEO, POR PARTE DE EMPLEADORES CON UN PERSONAL DE CUATRO PERSONAS O MÁS, EN SINDICATOS Y PROGRAMAS DE ADIESTRAMIENTO Y CAPACITACIÓN

También se prohíbe: La discriminación en el empleo basado en la observación del Sabat y otras prácticas religiosas, por previos arrestos o antecedentes criminales, por predisposición genética.

En casos de personas con discapacidades físicas se puede exigir que se le proporcionen ajustes necesarios y razonables. Un ajuste razonable es una modificación en el lugar o ambiente de trabajo que permita que una persona con discapacidades pueda desempeñar sus funciones de forma razonable.

ALQUILER, CONTRATO DE ALQUILER, VENTA DE VIVIENDAS, TIERRAS O ESPACIOS COMERCIALES

Excepciones:

- (1) el alquiler de un apartamento en una casa para dos familias en la que reside el propietario
- (2) la restricción de todas las habitaciones de una propiedad residencial para alojamiento de individuos del mismo sexo
- (3) el alquiler de una habitación por el ocupante de una casa o apartamento
- (4) la venta, alquiler, contrato de alquiler en viviendas para alojamiento exclusivo de personas de 55 años o más y sus respectivos esposos o esposas

También está prohibido: la discriminación en viviendas basada en la situación familiar (ejemplo: familias con niños)

También se puede exigir que se hagan ajustes razonables y modificaciones para las personas con discapacidades.

ACTIVIDADES DE AGENTES Y VENDEDORES DE BIENES RAÍCES

Está prohibido: los boicots comerciales y la práctica de vender o alquilar viviendas a grupos étnicos minoritarios en barrios habitados predominantemente por blancos, con el propósito de depreciar las propiedades y hacer especulaciones. A ésta práctica se le conoce en inglés como blockbusting.

SITIOS PÚBLICOS, LUGARES PARA VACACIONAR O DE ENTRETENIMIENTO COMO RESTAURANTES, HOTELES, HOSPITALES, CLUBES Y CONSULTORIOS MÉDICOS

Excepción:

La edad no es una de las categorías protegidas con respecto a los sitios públicos. Ajustes razonables para las personas con discapacidades también pueden ser requeridos. (Efectivo el 1ero de enero del 2008.)

PUBLICIDAD Y SOLICITUDES RELACIONADAS A EMPLEOS, BIENES RAÍCES, SITIOS PÚBLICOS Y OPERACIONES DE CRÉDITO

INSTITUCIONES EDUCATIVAS: QUE NO SEAN RELIGIOSAS, LIBRES DE IMPUESTOS, PÚBLICAS Y PRIVADAS

TODAS LAS OPERACIONES DE CRÉDITO INCLUYENDO FINANCIAMIENTO DE COMPRA, MANTENIMIENTO O REPARACIONES DE VIVIENDAS

Si desea presentar una querrela con la División de Derechos Humanos, debe hacerlo dentro de un plazo de un año después que el acto discriminatorio haya ocurrido. Los servicios que ofrece la División son gratuitos.

Si desea presentar una querrela ante la Corte Estatal tiene un plazo de hasta tres años después del incidente discriminatorio para hacerlo. No puede presentar su queja en ambos lugares, la División y la Corte Estatal.

Está prohibido tomar represalias contra una persona porque haya presentado una querrela o por oponerse a conductas discriminatorias. Usted puede presentar una querrela ante la División si han tomado represalias en su contra.

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN, ESCRIBA O LLAME A SU OFICINA DE LA DIVISIÓN MÁS CERCANA.

SEDE: ONE FORDHAM PLAZA, 4TH FLOOR, BRONX, NY 10458

LA DISCRIMINACIÓN REALMENTE HACE DAÑO.
SI ES TESTIGO O VÍCTIMA DE ELLA, LLÁMENOS.
ESTAMOS AQUÍ PARA SERVIRLES.

(718) 741-8400 (888) 392-3644

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ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK
DIVISIÓN DE
**DERECHOS
HUMANOS**
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GOBERNADOR ANDREW M. CUOMO

NEW YORK CORRECTION LAW
ARTICLE 23-A

LICENSURE AND EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS PREVIOUSLY
CONVICTED OF ONE OR MORE CRIMINAL OFFENSES

Section 750. Definitions.

751. Applicability.

752. Unfair discrimination against persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses prohibited.

753. Factors to be considered concerning a previous criminal conviction; presumption.

754. Written statement upon denial of license or employment.

755. Enforcement.

§750. Definitions. For the purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Public agency" means the state or any local subdivision thereof, or any state or local department, agency, board or commission.

(2) "Private employer" means any person, company, corporation, labor organization or association which employs ten or more persons.

(3) "Direct relationship" means that the nature of criminal conduct for which the person was convicted has a direct bearing on his fitness or ability to perform one or more of the duties or responsibilities necessarily related to the license, opportunity, or job in question.

(4) "License" means any certificate, license, permit or grant of permission required by the laws of this state, its political subdivisions or instrumentalities as a condition for the lawful practice of any occupation, employment, trade, vocation, business, or profession. Provided, however, that "license" shall not, for the purposes of this article, include any license or permit to own, possess, carry, or fire any explosive, pistol, handgun, rifle, shotgun, or other firearm.

(5) "Employment" means any occupation, vocation or employment, or any form of vocational or educational training. Provided, however, that "employment" shall not, for the purposes of this article, include membership in any law enforcement agency.

§751. Applicability. The provisions of this article shall apply to any application by any person for a license or employment at any public or private employer, who has previously been convicted of one or more criminal offenses in this state or in any other jurisdiction, and to any license or employment held by any person whose conviction of one or more criminal offenses in this state or in any other jurisdiction preceded such employment or granting of a license, except where a mandatory forfeiture, disability or bar to employment is imposed by law, and has not been removed by an executive pardon, certificate of relief from disabilities or certificate of good conduct. Nothing in this article shall be construed to affect any right an employer may have with respect to an intentional misrepresentation in connection with an application for employment made by a prospective employee or previously made by a current employee.

§752. Unfair discrimination against persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses prohibited. No application for any license or employment, and no employment or license held by an individual, to which the provisions of this article are applicable, shall be denied or acted upon adversely by reason of the individual's having been previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses, or by reason of a finding of lack of "good moral character" when such finding is based upon the fact that the individual has previously been convicted of one or more criminal offenses, unless:

(1) There is a direct relationship between one or more of the previous criminal offenses and the specific license or employment sought or held by the individual; or

(2) the issuance or continuation of the license or the granting or continuation of the employment would involve an unreasonable risk to property or to the safety or welfare of specific individuals or the general public.

§753. Factors to be considered concerning a previous criminal conviction; presumption. 1. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall consider the following factors:

(a) The public policy of this state, as expressed in this act, to encourage the licensure and employment of persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses.

(b) The specific duties and responsibilities necessarily related to the license or employment sought or held by the person.

(c) The bearing, if any, the criminal offense or offenses for which the person was previously convicted will have on his fitness or ability to perform one or more such duties or responsibilities.

(d) The time which has elapsed since the occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.

(e) The age of the person at the time of occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.

(f) The seriousness of the offense or offenses.

(g) Any information produced by the person, or produced on his behalf, in regard to his rehabilitation and good conduct.

(h) The legitimate interest of the public agency or private employer in protecting property, and the safety and welfare of specific individuals or the general public.

2. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall also give consideration to a certificate of relief from disabilities or a certificate of good conduct issued to the applicant, which certificate shall create a presumption of rehabilitation in regard to the offense or offenses specified therein.

§754. Written statement upon denial of license or employment. At the request of any person previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses who has been denied a license or employment, a public agency or private employer shall provide, within thirty days of a request, a written statement setting forth the reasons for such denial.

§755. Enforcement. 1. In relation to actions by public agencies, the provisions of this article shall be enforceable by a proceeding brought pursuant to article seventy-eight of the civil practice law and rules.

2. In relation to actions by private employers, the provisions of this article shall be enforceable by the division of human rights pursuant to the powers and procedures set forth in article fifteen of the executive law, and, concurrently, by the New York city commission on human rights.

Notice of Employee Rights, Protections, and Obligations Under Labor Law Section 740

Prohibited Retaliatory Personnel Action by Employers Effective January 26, 2022

§ 740. Retaliatory action by employers; prohibition.

1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, unless the context specifically indicates otherwise:

- (a) “Employee” means an individual who performs services for and under the control and direction of an employer for wages or other remuneration, including former employees, or natural persons employed as independent contractors to carry out work in furtherance of an employer’s business enterprise who are not themselves employers.
- (b) “Employer” means any person, firm, partnership, institution, corporation, or association that employs one or more employees.
- (c) “Law, rule or regulation” includes: (i) any duly enacted federal, state or local statute or ordinance or executive order; (ii) any rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to such statute or ordinance or executive order; or (iii) any judicial or administrative decision, ruling or order.
- (d) “Public body” includes the following:
 - (i) the United States Congress, any state legislature, or any elected local governmental body, or any member or employee thereof;
 - (ii) any federal, state, or local court, or any member or employee thereof, or any grand or petit jury;
 - (iii) any federal, state, or local regulatory, administrative, or public agency or authority, or instrumentality thereof;
 - (iv) any federal, state, or local law enforcement agency, prosecutorial office, or police or peace officer;
 - (v) any federal, state or local department of an executive branch of government; or
 - (vi) any division, board, bureau, office, committee, or commission of any of the public bodies described in subparagraphs (i) through (v) of this paragraph.
- (e) “Retaliatory action” means an adverse action taken by an employer or his or her agent to discharge, threaten, penalize, or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or former employee exercising his or her rights under this section, including (i) adverse employment actions or threats to take such adverse employment actions against an employee in the terms of conditions of employment including but not limited to discharge, suspension, or demotion; (ii) actions or threats to take such actions that would adversely impact a former employee’s current or future employment; or (iii) threatening to contact or contacting United States immigration authorities or otherwise reporting or threatening to report an employee’s suspected citizenship or immigration status or the suspected citizenship or immigration status of an employee’s family or household member, as defined in subdivision two of section four hundred fifty-nine-a of the social services law, to a federal, state, or local agency.

- (f) "Supervisor" means any individual within an employer's organization who has the authority to direct and control the work performance of the affected employee; or who has managerial authority to take corrective action regarding the violation of the law, rule or regulation of which the employee complains.
2. Prohibitions. An employer shall not take any retaliatory action against an employee, whether or not within the scope of the employee's job duties, because such employee does any of the following:
- (a) discloses, or threatens to disclose to a supervisor or to a public body an activity, policy or practice of the employer that the employee reasonably believes is in violation of law, rule or regulation or that the employee reasonably believes poses a substantial and specific danger to the public health or safety;
 - (b) provides information to, or testifies before, any public body conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry into any such activity, policy or practice by such employer; or
 - (c) objects to, or refuses to participate in any such activity, policy or practice.
3. Application. The protection against retaliatory action provided by paragraph (a) of subdivision two of this section pertaining to disclosure to a public body shall not apply to an employee who makes such disclosure to a public body unless the employee has made a good faith effort to notify his or her employer by bringing the activity, policy or practice to the attention of a supervisor of the employer and has afforded such employer a reasonable opportunity to correct such activity, policy or practice. Such employer notification shall not be required where:
- (a) there is an imminent and serious danger to the public health or safety;
 - (b) the employee reasonably believes that reporting to the supervisor would result in a destruction of evidence or other concealment of the activity, policy or practice;
 - (c) such activity, policy or practice could reasonably be expected to lead to endangering the welfare of a minor;
 - (d) the employee reasonably believes that reporting to the supervisor would result in physical harm to the employee or any other person; or
 - (e) the employee reasonably believes that the supervisor is already aware of the activity, policy or practice and will not correct such activity, policy or practice.
4. Violation; remedy.
- (a) An employee who has been the subject of a retaliatory action in violation of this section may institute a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction for relief as set forth in subdivision five of this section within two years after the alleged retaliatory action was taken.
 - (b) Any action authorized by this section may be brought in the county in which the alleged retaliatory action occurred, in the county in which the complainant resides, or in the county in which the employer has its principal place of business. In any such action, the parties shall be entitled to a jury trial.
 - (c) It shall be a defense to any action brought pursuant to this section that the retaliatory action was predicated upon grounds other than the employee's exercise of any rights protected by this section.
5. Relief. In any action brought pursuant to subdivision four of this section, the court may order relief as follows:
- (a) an injunction to restrain continued violation of this section;
 - (b) the reinstatement of the employee to the same position held before the retaliatory action, or to an equivalent position, or front pay in lieu thereof;
 - (c) the reinstatement of full fringe benefits and seniority rights;

- (d) the compensation for lost wages, benefits and other remuneration;
 - (e) the payment by the employer of reasonable costs, disbursements, and attorney's fees;
 - (f) a civil penalty of an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars; and/or
 - (g) the payment by the employer of punitive damages, if the violation was willful, malicious or wanton.
6. Employer relief. A court, in its discretion, may also order that reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs and disbursements be awarded to an employer if the court determines that an action brought by an employee under this section was without basis in law or in fact.
7. Existing rights. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to diminish the rights, privileges, or remedies of any employee under any other law or regulation or under any collective bargaining agreement or employment contract.
8. Publication. Every employer shall inform employees of their protections, rights and obligations under this section, by posting a notice thereof. Such notices shall be posted conspicuously in easily accessible and well-lighted places customarily frequented by employees and applicants for employment.

Equal Pay Provision of the New York State Labor Law

Article 6, Section 194

§ 194. Differential in rate of pay because of protected class status prohibited.

1. No employee with status within one or more protected class or classes shall be paid a wage at a rate less than the rate at which an employee without status within the same protected class or classes in the same establishment is paid for: (a) equal work on a job the performance of which requires equal skill, effort and responsibility, and which is performed under similar working conditions, or (b) substantially similar work, when viewed as a composite of skill, effort, and responsibility, and performed under similar working conditions; except where payment is made pursuant to a differential based on:

(i) a seniority system;

(ii) a merit system;

(iii) a system which measures earnings by quantity or quality of production;

(iv) a bona fide factor other than status within one or more protected class or classes, such as education, training, or experience. Such factor:

(A) shall not be based upon or derived from a differential in compensation based on status within one or more protected class or classes and

(B) shall be job-related with respect to the position in question and shall be consistent with business necessity. Such exception under this paragraph shall not apply when the employee demonstrates

(1) that an employer uses a particular employment practice that causes a disparate impact on the basis of status within one or more protected class or classes,

(2) that an alternative employment practice exists that would serve the same business purpose and not produce such differential, and

(3) that the employer has refused to adopt such alternative practice.

2. For the purpose of subdivision one of this section:

(a) "business necessity" shall be defined as a factor that bears a manifest relationship to the employment in question, and

(b) "protected class" shall include age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status, or domestic violence victim status, and any employee protected from discrimination pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subdivision one of section two hundred ninety-six and any intern protected from discrimination pursuant to section two hundred ninety-six-c of the executive law.

3. For the purposes of subdivision one of this section, employees shall be deemed to work in the same establishment if the employees work for the same employer at workplaces located in the same geographical region, no larger than a county, taking into account population distribution, economic activity, and/or the presence of municipalities.

4. (a) No employer shall prohibit an employee from inquiring about, discussing, or disclosing the wages of such employee or another employee.

(b) An employer may, in a written policy provided to all employees, establish reasonable workplace and workday limitations on the time, place and manner for inquires about, discussion of, or the disclosure of wages. Such limitations shall be consistent with standards promulgated by the commissioner and shall be consistent with all other state and federal laws. Such limitations may include prohibiting an employee from discussing or disclosing the wages of another employee without such employee's prior permission.

(c) Nothing in this subdivision shall require an employee to disclose his or her wages. The failure of an employee to adhere to such reasonable limitations in such written policy shall be an affirmative defense to any claims made against an employer under this subdivision, provided that any adverse employment action taken by the employer was for failure to adhere to such reasonable limitations and not for mere inquiry, discussion or disclosure of wages in accordance with such reasonable limitations in such written policy.

(d) This prohibition shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the wage information of other employees as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the wages of such other employees to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a complaint or charge, or in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action under this chapter, including an investigation conducted by the employer.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the rights of an employee provided under any other provision of law or collective bargaining agreement.

For questions, write or call your nearest office, (listed below), of the:

**New York State Department of Labor
Division of Labor Standards**

Albany District

State Office Campus
Bldg. 12, Rm. 185A
Albany, NY 12240
(518) 457-2730

Buffalo District

290 Main Street, Rm. 226
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-7141

Garden City District

400 Oak Street, Suite 101
Garden City, NY 11530
(516) 794-8195

New York City District

75 Varick Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10013
(212) 775-3880

Rochester Sub-District

276 Waring Road, Rm. 104
Rochester, NY 14609
(585) 258-4550

Syracuse District

333 East Washington Street,
Rm. 121
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 428-4057

White Plains District

120 Bloomingdale Road
White Plains, NY 10605
(914) 997-9521

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Division of Labor Standards

Guidelines Regarding the Rights of Nursing Mothers to Express Breast Milk in the Work Place

Section 206-c of the New York State Labor Law provides as follows:

Right of Nursing Mothers to Express Breast Milk.

An employer shall provide reasonable unpaid break time or permit an employee to use paid break time or meal time each day to allow an employee to express breast milk for her nursing child for up to three years following child birth. The employer shall make reasonable efforts to provide a room or other location, in close proximity to the work area, where an employee can express milk in privacy. No employer shall discriminate in any way against an employee who chooses to express breast milk in the workplace.

This law is applicable to all public and private employers in New York State, regardless of the size or nature of their business. In administering this statute, the Department applies the following interpretations and guidelines:

I. Notice

A. Employers shall provide written notification of the provisions of Labor Law §206-c to employees who are returning to work, following the birth of a child, and their right to take unpaid leave for the purpose of expressing breast milk. Such notice may either be provided individually to affected employees or to all employees generally through publication of such notice in the employee handbook or posting of the notice in a central location.

B. An employee wishing to avail herself of this benefit is required to give her employer advance notice. Such notice shall preferably be provided to the employer prior to the employee's return to work following the birth of the child in order to allow the employer an opportunity to establish a location and schedule leave time amongst multiple employees if needed.

II. Reasonable Unpaid Break Time

A. Reasonable unpaid break time is sufficient time to allow the employee to express breast milk. Each break shall generally be no less than twenty minutes. If the room or other location is not in close proximity to the employee's work station (e.g. as in a shared work location with a common lactation room) each break shall generally be no less than thirty minutes. Employees can elect to take shorter unpaid breaks for this purpose.

B. The number of unpaid breaks an employee will need to take for expression purposes varies depending on the amount of time the employee is separated from the nursing infant and the mother's physical needs. In most circumstances, employers shall provide unpaid break time at least once every three hours if requested by the employee.

C. Upon election of the employee, unpaid break time may run concurrently with regularly scheduled paid break or meal periods.

D. Upon election of the employee, an employer shall allow the employee to work before or after her normal shift to make up the amount of time used during the unpaid break time(s) for the expression of breast milk so long as such additional time requested falls within the employer's normal work hours.

E. This benefit is available to the employee during their basic work week and any overtime or additional hours worked.

F. An employee may be required to postpone scheduled unpaid break time for no more than thirty minutes if she cannot be spared from her duties until appropriate coverage arrives.

III. Reasonable Efforts and Privacy

A. All employers are required to make reasonable efforts to provide a private room or other location for the purpose of expression of breast milk. "Reasonable effort" requires that the room or other location must be provided for use of employees expressing breast milk so long as it is neither significantly impracticable, inconvenient, or expensive to the employer to do so. Relevant factors in determining significant impracticability, inconvenience, or expense include but are not limited to:

1. The nature of work performed at the business;
2. The overall size and physical layout of the business;
3. The type of facility where the business is housed;
4. The size and composition of the employer's workforce;
5. The business' general hours of operation and the employees' normal work shifts;
6. The relative cost of providing a room or other space for the dedicated purpose.

B. The room or location provided by the employer for this purpose cannot be a restroom or toilet stall.

C. An employer may dedicate one room or other location for the expression of breast milk and establish a schedule to accommodate the needs of multiple employees needing access thereto.

D. An employer who is unable to provide a dedicated lactation room or other location under these guidelines, may allow the use of a vacant office or other available room on a temporary basis for the expression of breast milk, provided the room is not accessible to the public or other employees while the nursing employee is using the room for expression purposes.

E. As a last resort, an employer who is unable to provide a dedicated lactation room or other location under these guidelines may make available a cubicle for use by individuals expressing breast milk, provided the cubicle is fully enclosed with a partition and is not otherwise accessible to the public or other employees while it is in use for expression purposes. The cubicle walls shall be at least seven feet tall to insure the nursing employee's privacy.

F. Each room or other location used for the expression of breast milk under these guidelines shall be well lit at all times through either natural or artificial light. If the room has a window, it shall be covered with a curtain, blind, or other covering to ensure privacy for the mother as she is expressing

breast milk. The room shall contain, at a minimum, a chair and small table, desk, counter, or other flat surface. In addition, employers are encouraged to provide an outlet, clean water supply, and access to refrigeration for the purposes of storing the expressed milk.

G. An employer is not responsible for insuring the safekeeping of expressed milk stored in any refrigerator on its premises. The employee is required to store all expressed milk in closed containers, regardless of the method of storage and to bring such milk home with her each evening.

H. The employer must maintain the cleanliness of the room or location set aside for the use of employees expressing breast milk at work.

I. An employer may not deny an employee this benefit due to difficulty in finding a location for purposes of the same.

J. For the purposes of this provision: "Private" shall mean that the room or other location shall not be open to other individuals frequenting the business, whether as employees, customers, or other members of the public. To insure privacy, the room or location should have a door equipped with a functional lock. If a door with a functional lock is not available (in the case of a fully enclosed cubicle) as a last resort an employer must utilize a sign advising the room or location is in use and not accessible to other employees or the public.

IV. Close Proximity

A. Any room or location provided for the expression of breast milk must be in close proximity to the work area of the employee(s) using it for the expression of breast milk.

B. Close proximity means the room or location must be in walking distance and the distance to the location should not appreciably lengthen the break time.

C. Should an employer have more than one employee at a time needing access to a lactation room or other location, the employer may dedicate a centralized location for use by all such employees, provided however, that the employer shall make every effort to locate such space at a reasonable distance from the employees using it.

D. Employers located in shared work areas such as office buildings, malls, and similar premises may cooperate with one another to establish and maintain a dedicated lactation room, provided however, that such rooms must be located at a reasonable distance from the employees using the room. Each employer utilizing such common dedicated lactation room will retain individual responsibility for ensuring that it meets all the requirements of these guidelines with regard to their employees. Use of a common dedicated lactation room pursuant to this paragraph will not reduce, mitigate, or otherwise affect the employer's obligations under these guidelines.

V. Non-Discrimination

No employer shall discriminate in any way against an employee who chooses to express breast milk in the workplace. Encouraging or allowing a work environment that is hostile to the right of nursing mothers to take leave for the purpose of expressing breast milk could constitute discrimination within the meaning of this section of the guidelines.

VI. Suggested Employer Activities

A. In addition to the activities set forth in the guidelines above, an employer may consider implementing one or more of the following activities in connection with the needs of employees who are breast feeding children:

1. Providing educational information in the lactation room or area regarding the benefits of breastfeeding and tips on expressing and storing breast milk including posters, newsletters, books, and referral information to health education programs about breastfeeding.
2. Allowing flexible work hours, job sharing, and/or part-time scheduling to accommodate employees with children of nursing age.
3. Providing an easily accessible sink to wash tubing used for pumping breast milk.
4. Allowing mothers of nursing children attending on-site day care to take breaks to breast feed in lieu of pumping.
5. Providing a listing of lactation consultants whom breastfeeding mothers could contact for assistance.
6. Including protection for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers in the company's sexual harassment policy.
7. Designation of a breastfeeding coordinator to allow consistent and coordinated implementation of this benefit in the workplace.

B. Not all questions can be anticipated; therefore these guidelines may not cover all situations that may arise. For additional assistance or information please contact the Division of Labor Standards office nearest you.

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New York City District
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