## **EMPLOYEE RIGHTS** UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

### LEAVE **ENTITLEMENTS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

**BENEFITS &** 

**PROTECTIONS** 

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

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

### REQUESTING **LEAVE**

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

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

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

### **EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

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

### **ENFORCEMENT**

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

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.



For additional information or to file a complaint:

1-866-4-USWAGE (1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

www.dol.gov/whd

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



WH1420 REV 04/16



## **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 workrelated injury or illness, without being retaliated against.
- Receive information and training on job hazards, including all hazardous substances in your workplace.
- Request a confidential OSHA inspection of your workplace if you believe there are unsafe or unhealthy conditions. You have the right to have a representative contact OSHA on your behalf.
- Participate (or have your representative) participate) in an OSHA inspection and speak in private to the inspector.
- 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.
- Notify OSHA within 8 hours of a workplace fatality or within 24 hours of any work-related inpatient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye.
- Provide required training to all workers in a language and vocabulary they can understand.
- Prominently display this poster in the workplace.
- Post OSHA citations at or near the place of the alleged violations.

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



# **EMPLOYEE RIGHTS**

## **EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION ACT**

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

### **PROHIBITIONS**

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

### **EXEMPTIONS**

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

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

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

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

### **EXAMINEE RIGHTS**

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

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

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



**WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION** 



# WORKER RIGHTS **UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 13658**

FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE FOR CONTRACTORS

**EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2023 – DECEMBER 31, 2023** 

The law requires certain federal contractors to display this poster where employees can easily see it.

MINIMUM WAGE Federal construction and service contracts are generally subject to a minimum wage rate under either Executive Order (EO) 13658 or EO 14026.

- If the contract was entered into on or between January 1, 2015, and January 29, 2022, EO 13658 generally requires that workers be paid at least \$12.15 per hour for all time spent performing on or in connection with the contract in calendar year 2023.
- If the contract is renewed or extended on or after January 30, 2022, or a new contract is entered into on or after January 30, 2022, EO 14026 generally requires that workers be paid at least \$16.20 per hour for all time spent performing on or in connection with the contract in calendar year 2023.

### **EXCLUSIONS**

- The EO minimum wage may not apply to some workers who provide support in connection with covered federal contracts for less than 20 percent of their hours worked in a week.
- The EO minimum wage may not apply to certain other occupations and

### **ENFORCEMENT**

• The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) is responsible for enforcing this law. WHD can answer questions about your workplace rights and protections, investigate employers, and recover back wages. All WHD services are free and confidential. Employers cannot retaliate or discriminate against someone who files a complaint or participates in an investigation. WHD will accept a complaint in any language. You can find your nearest WHD office online at www.dol.gov/ agencies/whd/contact/local-offices or by calling toll-free 866-4US-WAGE (866-487-9243). We do not ask workers about their immigration status. We

### ADDITIONAL **INFORMATION**

- Workers with disabilities must be paid at least the EO minimum wage rate for time spent performing on or in connection with covered contracts.
- Some state or local laws may provide greater worker protections and employers must follow the law that requires the highest rate of pay.
- More information about the EO minimum wage is available online at www. dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/minimum-wage



