

# Paid Family Leave Highlights

Updated for 2026



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A middle-aged man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light blue button-down shirt, is smiling and looking down at a smartphone he is holding in his hands. He is standing in front of a large glass window or door, with a blurred interior background showing some architectural details and warm lighting. The text "Mandated Paid Family Leave Laws" is overlaid on the left side of the image in a white serif font.

# Mandated Paid Family Leave Laws

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	California	Colorado	Connecticut	Delaware
Type of Law	Statutory	Statutory	Statutory	Statutory
Name of Law	<a href="#">Paid Family Leave</a>	Paid Family & Medical Leave Insurance ( <a href="#">FAMLI</a> ) program Taxation 1/1/2023 Leaves began 1/1/2024	<a href="#">Paid Family and Medical Leave</a> Leaves commenced 1/1/2022	<a href="#">Delaware Paid Leave</a> Taxation effective 1/1/2025 Leaves commence 1/1/2026
Covered Employers	Employers with one or more employees in California	Non-federal government employers who pay wages of at least \$1,500 during any calendar quarter in the preceding year	Private employers and state government non-union workforce (except nonpublic elementary and secondary schools) with one or more employee.	9 or fewer employees: exempt 10 – 24 employees: parental leave only; 25 or more employees: parental, family care giving and medical leave.
Employer Contributions	None, funded entirely through employee contributions	Employers pay .44% of employee wages capped at Social Security wage base. Employers can choose to pay up to 100% of the premium and decrease employee share. Employers with less than 10 employees total (including employees who work outside of Colorado) are exempt from contributing 50% (.44%) of the premium contribution.	None, funded entirely through employee contributions	Employers must pay 50% of the required contributions, Parental: .16% (.32% total), Family: .04% (.08% total), and Medical: .2% (.4% total)  Employers can choose to pay more than 50% of the premium.

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	California	Colorado	Connecticut	Delaware
Covered Employees	Employees covered by SDI and who have earned at least \$300 in the base period	Earned at least \$2,500 in wages during the first four of the last five quarters subject to premiums during the base period	Work in CT and employed in previous 12 weeks preceding request for leave and who have earned at least \$2,325 in the first four of the five most recently completed quarters	Employees employed for at least 12 months with current employer and with at least 1,250 hours of service during the previous 12-month period and who work 60% of the time in DE
Employee Contributions	Not more than 1.3% of annual wages (2026); wage cap removed 1/1/2024 (SDI contribution funds PFL)	Employees pay .44% of wages capped at the Social Security wage base.	.5% of pay capped at Social Security contribution limit. Maximum 2026 deduction \$922.50	Employees must pay 50% of the required contributions, Parental: .16% (.32% total), Family: .04% (.08% total), and Medical: .2% (.4% total)
Benefit	70%-90% of wages (depending on income capped at 63% of State Average Weekly Wage); Minimum benefit: \$50; Maximum benefit: \$1,765 (1/1/2026); San Francisco employers may be required supplement wages under the San Francisco Paid Parental Leave Ordinance up to \$2,522 wage cap	90% of worker's average weekly wage. Maximum benefit 90% of State Average Weekly wage capped at \$1,381.45 for leaves beginning July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.	95% of worker's average weekly wage. Weekly benefit capped at 60 times minimum wage, to a maximum of \$1,1016.40 (2026)	80% of employee's average weekly wage with a maximum of \$900 and minimum of \$100 in 2026 and 2027

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	California	Colorado	Connecticut	Delaware
Amount of Leave	Up to 8 weeks in a 12- month period	Up to 12 weeks in a 12-month period; up to 4 additional weeks for serious health condition related to pregnancy or childbirth complications; up to an additional 12 weeks for parents whose child is receiving care in a neonatal intensive care unit.	12 weeks in a 12- month period; no waiting period; 2 additional weeks for incapacity due to pregnancy; 26 weeks for qualifying exigency (only 12 weeks paid); Up to 12 days if impacted by family violence.	12 weeks per year for care of a new child 6 weeks every 24 months for care of a family member 6 weeks every 24 months for employee's own serious health condition 6 weeks every 24 months for military events Maximum 12 weeks total per year
Reason for Leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care of seriously ill family member (child, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse or registered domestic partner)</li> <li>Bond with a newly born child, a newly adopted child or foster care placement,</li> <li>Military events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care for a new child during the first year after the child's birth, adoption, or foster care placement;</li> <li>Serious health condition of employee or family member (spouse, domestic partner, sibling, child, child's spouse or domestic partner, grandparent, grandchild, parent, parent-in-law, or parent of domestic partner, any person with a significant personal bond equivalent to a family relationship),</li> <li>qualifying exigency,</li> <li>safe leave</li> <li>Child in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serious health condition of employee;</li> <li>Care of seriously ill family member (child, spouse, siblings, parents, grandparents, grandchild, relatives by blood or affinity);</li> <li>Bond with a newly born child, or a newly adopted child or foster care placement;</li> <li>Serve as an organ or bone marrow donor;</li> <li>family violence;</li> <li>Service member related events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birth, adoption, foster care during the first year</li> <li>Care of a family member with a serious health condition</li> <li>Employee's own serious health condition</li> <li>Military events</li> </ul>

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	California	Colorado	Connecticut	Delaware
Job Protection and Benefits Continuation	None through PFL; other laws may provide protection.	If employed with employer at least 180 days prior to leave, entitled to be restored to current position, and benefits continued.	No job protection under CT Paid Leave. Job protection under CT FMLA and continued health benefits under FMLA if applies. Certain retaliation protections available under the law.	Employees returning from leave must be restored to same or equivalent position and health benefits must be maintained during the leave with employees continuing to pay their share of the cost.
Private Plans	Employers are able to set up a Voluntary Disability Plan which includes Paid Family Leave <a href="#">Voluntary Plan - EDD - CA.gov</a>	Employers with private plans meeting program requirements may opt out.  <a href="#">See private plan regulations</a>	Employers with <a href="#">private plans</a> meeting program requirements may apply for an exemption.	Employers may opt out of the program if their paid leave program offers comparable terms and meets the stated requirements. See <a href="#">website</a>
Penalties	Penalties apply to failure to withhold and report payroll tax and fraudulent claims; either flat dollar amount or percentage depending on reason for penalty	Maximum fine of \$500 per violation	Failure to withhold and pay payroll tax will result in collections and interest on unpaid amount	Civil penalties of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 for failure to comply, or for discharging or discriminating against an employee who has filed a complaint.
Notification Requirements	Employers must post a <a href="#">Notice to Employees</a> in a prominent place. Employers must provide a copy of the <a href="#">Paid Family Leave</a> pamphlet as appropriate	Employers must post a program notice in a prominent place at their worksite and must provide a program notice to employees on hire, and on learning of need for PFMLI absence. Notices are provided in the <a href="#">FAMLI employer toolkit</a>	Employer must provide written <a href="#">notice</a> at time of hiring and annually thereafter to each employee	Upon hire, when an employee requests leave and when an employer knows the leave may be for a qualifying event. Notice must be posted conspicuously in the place of business. Template notice expected to be provided



# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Highlights

State	Maine	Maryland	Massachusetts	Minnesota
Type of Law	Statutory	Statutory	Statutory	Statutory
Name of Law	<a href="#">LD 1964</a> <a href="#">Maine Paid Family Medical Leave Website</a> Taxation begins 1/1/2025 Leaves commence 5/1/2026	<a href="#">Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI)</a> <a href="#">FAMLI website</a> Taxation delayed to 1/1/2027 Leaves delayed to 1/3/2028	<a href="#">MA Family and Medical Leave</a>	<a href="#">HF2</a> <a href="#">Paid Family and Medical Leave Website</a> Taxation and Benefits begin 1/1/2026
Covered Employers	Non-federal government employers with one or more employees, including state, city and public employers	Employers with one or more employees working in the state of Maryland.	Employers with one or more employees.	Employer with at least one employee including public employers (state, city, county, municipal agencies). A self-employed individual can opt in and be approved.
Employer Contributions	Employers with 15 or more employees will contribute 50% (.5%) of the 1% payroll tax up to the Social Security wage base. Employers with fewer than 15 employees will only remit the required payroll tax (.5%) paid by employees	Employers with 15 or more employees will be required to contribute 50% of .9% (.45%) up to the Social Security wage base. Employers with fewer than 15 employees are not required to contribute.	Employers with 25+ employees pay .42% for medical leave up to the Social Security wage base, 0% for family leave in 2026  Employers with fewer than 25 employees are not required to contribute.	Employers will contribute 50% of the required premium rate, .88% of taxable wages up to the Social Security taxable wage base.  Employers with 30 or fewer employees will contribute 50% of .66% of taxable wages up to the SS taxable wage base.  Employers can pay up to 100% of the premium



# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Maine	Maryland	Massachusetts	Minnesota
Covered Employees	Earned at least 6 times the state AWW (approximately \$7,190) in wages subject to premiums during the base period	Employees who have worked at least 680 hours in the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which leave is to begin	Employees who have earned at least \$6,300 during the last 4 completed calendar quarters and 30 times the weekly benefit amount eligible to collect. May include 1099 employees	Part-time and full-time employees who have earned more than 5.3% of the state average annual wage (approximately \$3,900 based on current average annual wage). Employees will need to either work in Minnesota 50% of the time or live in Minnesota 50% of the time.
Employee Contributions	Employees pay .5% of wages up to the Social Security wage base	Employees required to contribute .45% of wages up to the Social Security wage base	Employees pay .28% of medical leave and .18% of family leave up to the Social Security wage base in 2026	Employees contribute 50% of the required premium, .88%, of taxable wages up to the Social Security taxable wage base. Employees working for small employers (< 30 employees) will pay 50% of .66%
Benefit	90% of worker's average weekly wage that don't exceed 50% of the state's AWW plus 66% of wages that exceed 50% but less than 100% of the state's AWW. Capped at SAWW in effect the July preceding the leave date. For leaves beginning May 1, 2026, maximum will be \$1,199	Percentage based on a formula of wages under and over the state average weekly wage, capped a maximum of \$1,000 and a minimum of \$50.	Percentage based on a formula of wages capped at \$1,230.39/week for 2026. Employees are able to use paid leave (sick time, vacation, PTO) to supplement PFML benefits up to the employee's individual average weekly wage	90% of wages that do not exceed 50% of the state's AWW; plus 66% of wages that exceed 50% but are less than 100% of the state's AWW; plus 55% of wages that exceed 100% of the state's AWW. Maximum benefit is \$1,423/week

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Maine	Maryland	Massachusetts	Minnesota
Amount of Leave	Up to 12 weeks in a 12-month period	12 weeks for family leave (birth of a child or to care for a family member with serious health condition or military events; additional 12 weeks for employee's own serious illness	Up to 12 weeks of paid family leave in an application year (defined as a rolling 12-month period). Up to 20 weeks for the employee's serious health condition; up to 26 weeks to care for a family member who is a covered service member with a serious health condition.	12 weeks of family leave or 12 weeks of medical leave. An employee using both family leave and medical leave can take up to 20 weeks in total.
Reason for Leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bonding during the first year after the child's birth, adoption, or foster care placement;</li> <li>• serious health condition of a family member (expanded definition of a family member including person with whom there is a significant personal bond),</li> <li>• qualifying exigency, caring for a family member who is a covered service member,</li> <li>• safe leave,</li> <li>• serious health condition of the employee</li> <li>• Donation of an organ</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serious health condition of employee;</li> <li>• Care of seriously ill family member (spouse, domestic partner, child, parent, parent-in-law &amp; parent of domestic partners, in loco parentis individuals, grandchild, grandparent &amp; siblings);</li> <li>• Bond with a newly born child, or a newly adopted child or foster care placement within the first 12 months;</li> <li>• Service member related events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bonding during the first 12 months after the birth, adoption or placement for adoption</li> <li>• The serious health condition of a family member (expanded definition of family member including any individual selected by the incapacitated person),</li> <li>• Attending a qualifying exigency, or caring for a family member who is a covered service member</li> <li>• The serious health condition of the employee including pregnancy related medical care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birth of a child, placement of a child for adoption or fostering,</li> <li>• Serious health condition of a family member</li> <li>• Serious health condition of the employee,</li> <li>• Care for an injured service member</li> <li>• Certain personal safety issues</li> </ul>

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Maine	Maryland	Massachusetts	Minnesota
Job Protection and Benefits Continuation	If employed with employer at least 120 days prior to leave, entitled to be restored to current position, and benefits continued while on leave.	Employees are generally protected for job restoration. Health benefits must be continued as if active	Employee must be restored to prior or equivalent position; health benefits continued	Employers must continue all group insurance benefits as if the employee is active; and employee restored to the same or equivalent position if the employee has had at least 90 days of service with the employer.
Private Plans	Private plans allowed. Employers with private plans meeting program requirements may opt out. More information to come	Private plans will be allowed	Employers with <a href="#">private plans</a> meeting program requirements may apply for an exemption from the state program.	Employers may substitute a plan that meets or exceeds the requirements of the state plan. Employers who implement a private plan will be required to contribute to the state revenue fund as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• private plan for family leave only: 0.4% of covered wages, 50% of which can be charged to employees.</li><li>• private plan for medical leave only: 0.3% of covered wages, 50% of which can be charged to employees.</li></ul>

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Maine	Maryland	Massachusetts	Minnesota
Penalties	<p>Penalty of \$100 per violation for private plan violations;                      Penalty of \$150 per employee for failure to comply with notice requirements                      1% of payroll for failure to make premium contributions</p>	<p>Employers will need to provide a written notice to employees at the time of hire and annually thereafter.</p> <p>Standard notices will be developed by the Maryland Department of Labor</p>	<p>Penalties of \$50/employee and \$300 civil penalty for failure to provide notice</p>	<p>Employers must maintain a poster in English, and in any language that is the first language spoken by at least 5 or more employees. Employers will also need to provide employees with a detailed notice within 30 days of employment or premium collection. Employees will need to provide an acknowledgement of receipt. Employers are required to include the PFML deductions on the employee's earning statements.</p>
Notification Requirements	<p>Employers must provide written notice to each employee of their rights and duties under the bill at the time of hire, and when the employee requests leave.</p> <p>Employers must maintain a poster in a conspicuous place in English, Spanish, and any alternate language spoken by at least 3 or more employees (if the alternate poster is provided by the department</p>	<p>Employers will need to provide a written notice to employees at the time of hire and annually thereafter.</p> <p>Standard notices will be developed by the Maryland Department of Labor</p>	<p>Employers are required to provide a written notice to employees within 30 days of employee's start date, in addition to posting a <a href="#">poster</a> in a prominent place.</p> <p><a href="#">Employer notice for a workforce with 25 or more employees</a></p> <p><a href="#">Employer notice for a workforce with fewer than 25 covered individuals</a></p>	<p>Employers must maintain a poster in English, and in any language that is the first language spoken by at least 5 or more employees. Employers will also need to provide employees with a detailed notice within 30 days of employment or premium collection. Employees will need to provide an acknowledgement of receipt. Employers are required to include the PFML deductions on the employee's earning statements.</p>

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	New Jersey	New York	Oregon	Rhode Island
Type of Law	Statutory	Statutory	Statutory	Statutory
Name of Law	<a href="#">Family Leave Insurance</a>	<a href="#">New York Paid Family Leave</a>	<a href="#">Oregon Paid Family and Medical Leave</a> Taxation began January 1, 2023 Leaves began September 3, 2023	<a href="#">Temporary Caregiver Insurance</a>
Covered Employers	All private and governmental employers subject to New Jersey Unemployment Compensation Law	Most private employers with one or more employees working in the state of New York	Employers with one or more employees working in the state of Oregon.	Employers of one or more employees in the State of Rhode Island who earn more than \$1,000 per calendar quarter
Employer Contributions	None, funded entirely through employee contributions	None, funded entirely through employee contributions	1% of employee's pay capped at SS wage index for the year, split between employer and employee. Employers pay 40%.  Employers with fewer than 25 employees throughout the US are not obligated to pay employer portion.	None, funded entirely through employee contributions

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	New Jersey	New York	Oregon	Rhode Island
Covered Employees	Employees who have worked at least 20 weeks earning \$310 or more per week, or at least \$15,500 (2026) in the past 12 months	Full time employees who work 20 or more hours per week eligible after 26 weeks of employment; part-time employees who work less than 20 hours per week eligible after working 175 days	Employees who have earned at least \$1,000 during the base year	Earned at least \$18,000 in base period wages or \$3,000 in one of the base period quarters and have total base period earnings of at least \$6,000
Employee Contributions	Effective 1/1/2026 .23% of taxable wage base capped at \$171,100; maximum yearly deduction is \$393.53	.432% of employees gross wage. Maximum annual contribution is \$411.91 for 2026	1% of employee's pay capped at SS wage index split between employer and employee. Employees pay 60% of the contribution rate of 1%.	1.3% of the first \$100,000 maximum employee contribution: \$1,300 (Effective January 1, 2026)
Benefit	85% of average weekly wage capped at \$1,119 per week in 2026	67% of employee's average weekly maximum benefit \$1,228.53; minimum benefit \$100 for 2026	100% of workers average weekly wage capped at 120% of statewide average weekly wage: \$1,636.26/week maximum; \$68.19 minimum weekly benefit in effective July 6, 2025 – June 30, 2026	4.62% of highest quarter wages in base period; maximum \$1,103 weekly; with up to 5 dependents - maximum \$1,489 weekly; minimum weekly benefit \$139; no waiting period but must be out of work for 7 consecutive days to collect payment. (July 2025-June 2026)
Amount of Leave	12 weeks in a 12-month period or 8 weeks in a 12-month period if taken intermittently.	12 weeks - no waiting period	12 weeks of paid leave in a 12-month period with two additional weeks for pregnancy, childbirth, or related circumstances	8 weeks effective 1/1/2026

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	New Jersey	New York	Oregon	Rhode Island
Reason for Leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bond with newborn within one year of the child's birth or newly adopted child or foster children,</li> <li>Provide care for seriously ill or injured family member (child, parent, parent-in-law, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, spouse, registered domestic partner, civil union partner or any person related by blood or person with an equivalent family relationship),</li> <li>Domestic or sexual violence "safe time"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bonding within 1 year of birth, adoption and foster care;</li> <li>Serious health condition of a family member (child, parent, parent-in-law, spouse, grandchild, grandparent, domestic partner, siblings</li> <li>Military family support when a family member is deployed abroad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bonding with a child within one year of birth, adoption or foster care placement, completing necessary activities prior to adoption or fostering</li> <li>Care for a family member (expanded family definition including any person related by blood or person with an equivalent family relationship) with a serious health condition,</li> <li>Employee's own serious health condition,</li> <li>Safe leave to deal with domestic violence, harassment sexual assault or stalking.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care for a seriously ill child, parent, spouse, domestic partner, parent-in-law or grandparent</li> <li>Bond with a newborn child, adopted child or foster child during the first 12 months</li> <li>Bone marrow or living organ donor (can file either through TDI or TCI but not both)</li> </ul>
Job Protection and Benefits Continuation	None through Family Care Leave; other laws may provide protection.	Job protected and entitled to be returned to same or comparable job. Benefits continued as if active employee	<p>Job protected and entitled to be returned to same or comparable job; Benefits continued as if active employee</p> <p>Employers with fewer than 25 employees must protect jobs for employees who have worked at least 90 days and the employee's position still exists.</p>	None through Temporary Caregiver Insurance; other laws may provide protection



# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	New Jersey	New York	Oregon	Rhode Island
Private Plans	<a href="#">Private plans</a> are available and must be approved by the Division of Temporary Disability and Family Leave	Generally as a rider to the New York State statutory disability policy; can be self-insured as well	Employers can implement an <a href="#">equivalent plan</a> that is equal to or better than the state plan	Not available
Penalties	\$250 for first offense and \$500 for subsequent offenses. Willful violations carry penalties between \$100-\$1,000 and up to 90 days in prison	Failure to give proper notice or to comply with any aspect of the law subject to fines and guilty of a misdemeanor. Penalties can range from \$100 - \$2,500 per violation.	Up to \$1,000 per occurrence for denial of leave, discrimination or retaliation.	Penalties for failure to submit timely contribution reports of \$10/report and 10% of amount due; \$25 for delinquent wage reports
Notification Requirements	Employers must provide written <a href="#">notice</a> to employees at the time of hire and upon need for family leave insurance.  They must also display a poster in a workplace location clearly visible to employees. <a href="#">Family Leave Insurance Poster</a>	Employers are required to post a notice of compliance provided by insurance carrier. If self-insured, contact the NYS Workers Compensation Board at the email address: <a href="mailto:certificates@wcb.ny.gov">certificates@wcb.ny.gov</a> <a href="#">Model notice</a> <a href="#">Employee Notice of PFL Deductions for 2024</a> <a href="#">Statement of Rights for PFL</a>	Employers are required to post a poster. The <a href="#">employer tool kit</a> provides brochures and fact sheets that an employer can provide to employees.	Display the required <a href="#">poster</a> and provide to remote workers

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Washington DC	Washington
Type of Law	Statutory	Statutory
Name of Law	<a href="#">District of Columbia Paid Family Leave</a> (Universal Paid Leave)	<a href="#">Paid Family and Medical Leave</a>
Covered Employers	Private employers with one or more employees who work in DC, and are required to pay unemployment insurance	Employers with one or more employees who work in the state of Washington
Employer Contributions	.75% of total wages of each covered employee effective July 1, 2025;	1.13% of total wages of covered employee capped at Social Security wage base; employers with 50 or more employees required to pay 28.57% (.323) of premium in 2026. Employers with less than 50 employees exempt from paying employer portion but can choose to do so.

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Washington DC	Washington
Covered Employees	Employee who spends more than 50% time working in DC with earned income during at least one of the past five completed quarters immediately preceding the leave.	Employees who work 820 or more hours in the first 4 of the last 5 calendar quarters in the state of Washington
Employee Contributions	none	1.13% of total wages of covered employees capped at the Social Security wage base, split between employer and employee. Employees pay 71.43% (.807) of the 1.13% in 2026.
Benefit	Sliding scale based on employee's income up to 90% of average weekly wage capped at \$1,190 effective 9/29/2025	90% of average weekly wage for employees who earn 50% less than the state average weekly wage; based on a formula if earn more than 50% of the state average weekly wage capped at \$1,647/week effective January 1, 2026
Amount of Leave	12 weeks to bond with a child, care for an ill family member; for employee's own serious health condition; 2 weeks prenatal maximum of 14 weeks prenatal + bonding	Up to 12 weeks of paid leave after 7-day unpaid waiting period; employees with a serious health condition and pregnancy that results in incapacitation may take up to 18 weeks. 7 days for loss of a child. No waiting period for medical leave following birth, bonding leave or military exigency; up to 16 weeks combined medical and family leave

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Washington DC	Washington
Reason for Leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bonding within 1 year of birth, adoption and foster care placement or legal assumption of parental responsibility;</li><li>• Serious health condition of a family member (child, parent, parent-in-law, spouse, grandparent, sibling, or registered domestic partner)</li><li>• Employee's own serious health condition</li><li>• Prenatal leave</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Care and bonding after birth or placement of a child within the first 12 months of parenting,</li><li>• Serious health condition of a family member (child, parent, spouse or registered domestic partner, grandparents, grandchildren, siblings and any individual residing at employee's home creating expectation for care),</li><li>• Certain military connected events, care of employee's own serious health condition.</li><li>• Loss of a child</li><li>• Serious health condition of employee</li></ul>
Job Protection and Benefits Continuation	None through Family Leave; other laws may provide protection	Protected if company has 25 or more employees in WA and employee has worked 180 days for the employer; employers are required to continue benefits

# 2026 Mandated Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Washington DC	Washington
Private Plans	None available	Employers can choose to implement a <a href="#">voluntary plan</a>
Penalties	Penalties for failure to withhold and report of at least \$100 and up to 10% of amount due.	Interest on delinquent premiums
Notification Requirements	Employers must provide a notice to each new hire, when an employer is aware of leave is needed and annually plus display the <a href="#">Paid Family Leave Notice</a> with other labor law posters	Employers are required to provide a written <a href="#">notice</a> when employee takes leave and post a <a href="#">notice</a> in the area with other employment related posters.



# Voluntary Paid Family Leave Laws

# 2026 Voluntary Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Alabama	Arkansas	Florida	Kentucky	New Hampshire
Type of Law	Voluntary insurance product	Voluntary insurance product	Voluntary Insurance Product	Voluntary Insurance Product	Voluntary Insurance Product
Name of Law	<a href="#">HB 141</a> – Paid Family Leave Income Replacement and Benefits Act Policies available for purchase by employers or employees effective August 1, 2023	<a href="#">SB111</a> Approved 2/17/2023; Carriers may begin filing their non-statutory PFL product August 1, 2023	<a href="#">HB 721</a>	<a href="#">Acts Ch. 99</a>	<a href="#">Granite State Paid Family Leave Plan</a> <a href="#">Paid Family Medical Leave Website</a>
Covered Employers	Any employer wishing to purchase a voluntary insurance product	Any employer wishing to purchase a voluntary insurance product	Voluntary insurance product purchased by employer	Voluntary insurance product purchased by employer	Required for state employers; optional for private employers; employers of any size and individual participants can opt in
Employer Contributions	Employer can purchase either a rider or standalone product from disability insurers. Premiums set by insurer.	Employers can purchase an insurance product or a rider to a policy from accident and health or life insurers. Premiums set by insurers	Employer can purchase a policy to provide income replacement	Employer can purchase a policy to provide income replacement	Employers are able to pay the entire premium, partial premium, or none of the premium; employers who opt in will contract directly with the chosen leave provider (currently MetLife)



# 2026 Paid Voluntary Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Alabama	Arkansas	Florida	Kentucky	New Hampshire
Covered Employees	Employees are able to purchase a Paid Family Leave Policy directly from the insurance carrier	Only available as an employer purchased product.	Employees whose employer has purchased paid family leave insurance product	Employees whose employer has purchased paid family leave insurance product	All state employees; If the non-state employer does not opt in, the employee can choose to purchase a policy directly from the state insurance partner, MetLife
Employee Contributions	Premium for employee purchased product will be set by insurer	none	none	none	A per employee premium will be set of no more than \$5/week.
Benefit	Insurance carrier will determine the amount of the wage replacement benefit available	Insurance carrier will determine the amount of the wage replacement benefit available	Determined by insurer under the policy	Determined by insurer under the policy	60% of average weekly wage capped at the SS taxable wage maximum
Amount of Leave	Insurance carrier will determine the amount of leave available, but it must be a minimum of two weeks within a 52-week period.	Insurance carriers will set the amount of leave available.	Determined by the policy but must be a minimum of 2 weeks during a period of 52 weeks.	Determined by the policy but must be a minimum of 2 weeks during a period of 52 weeks.	6 weeks per year with no minimum requirement. (A 12-week option is available for purchase also.)

# 2026 Voluntary Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Alabama	Arkansas	Florida	Kentucky	New Hampshire
Reason for Leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care of seriously ill family member (child, parent, spouse or any other individual defined as family in the insurance policy,</li> <li>Bond with a newly born child, a newly adopted child or foster care placement,</li> <li>Qualifying exigency, care for a family service member injured in the line of duty</li> <li>Other events as specified in the policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birth of a child, adoption, or foster care placement,</li> <li>Serious health condition of family member,</li> <li>Military events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birth, adoption, placement for adoption or foster care;</li> <li>care of a family member, defined as child, spouse, parent or other person defined as a family member in the policy, with a serious health condition</li> <li>Service member related events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serious health condition of a family member</li> <li>Bond with a child</li> <li>Address a qualifying exigency</li> <li>Care for a member of the Armed Forces</li> <li>Any other reason specified in the policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birth of a child, placement of a child for adoption or fostering,</li> <li>Serious health condition of a family member</li> <li>Serious health condition of the employee,</li> <li>Any qualifying military exigency</li> <li>Care for an injured service member</li> </ul>
Job Protection and Benefits Continuation	None through the policy, other laws may provide protection.	None through the policy, other laws may provide protection.	None through the policy, other laws may provide protection.	None through the policy, other laws may provide protection.	Employers with 50 or more employees who opt in are required to restore employees to same or equivalent position and continue health benefits under the same conditions as active employees.

# 2026 Voluntary Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	Alabama	Arkansas	Florida	Kentucky	New Hampshire
Private Plans	Voluntary insurance product purchased by employer or employee	Voluntary insurance product purchased by employer	Voluntary insurance product purchased by employer	Voluntary insurance product purchased by employer	Non-state employees and employers can purchase private plans
Penalties	None	None	None	None	None
Notification Requirements	None	None	None	None	None

# 2026 Voluntary Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	South Carolina	Tennessee	Texas	Vermont	Virginia
Type of Law	Voluntary Insurance Product	Voluntary insurance product	Voluntary insurance product	Statutory for Vermont State employees, voluntary insurance product for employers and individual employees	Voluntary insurance product
Name of Law	<a href="#">SC H 4832</a>	<a href="#">SB454</a> Carriers may begin filing their non-statutory PFL insurance products January 1, 2024	<a href="#">HB1996</a> Law was effective 9/1/2023	<a href="#">Vermont Family and Medical Leave Insurance</a>	<a href="#">SB -15</a>
Covered Employers	Any employer who purchases an insurance product through the authorized carriers	Any employer who purchases an insurance product through the authorized carriers	Any employer who purchases an insurance product through the authorized carriers	Required for state employers effective 7/1/2023 optional for private employer; employers of any size can opt in 7/1/2024 and individual participants can opt in 7/1/2025	Any employer who purchases a policy from authorized carriers
Employer Contributions	Employers purchase the policy	Employers purchase the policy	Employers purchase the policy	Employers purchase the policy	Employers purchase the policy

# 2026 Voluntary Paid Family Leave Law Highlights

State	South Carolina	Tennessee	Texas	Vermont	Virginia
Covered Employees	Employees of employers who purchase policies	Employees of employers who purchase policies	Employees of employers who purchase policies	All state employees; if the private employer does not opt in, the employee can choose to purchase a policy directly from <a href="#">The Hartford</a> effective July 1, 2025	Employees of employers who purchase an insured leave product
Employee Contributions	Most likely none	Most likely none	Most likely none	A per employee premium will be set for employees purchasing individual policies	Most likely none
Benefit	Percentage of wage replacement set by insurance carriers	Percentage of wage replacement set by insurance carriers	Percentage of wage replacement set by insurance carriers	60% of average weekly wage capped at the SS taxable wage maximum	Percentage of wage replacement set by insurance carriers
Amount of Leave	Carriers are able to determine the length of leave available	Carriers are able to determine the length of leave available	May not be less than 2 weeks in a 52-week period	At least 6 weeks per year combined for all reasons	Determined under the policy purchased

# 2026 Voluntary Paid Family Leave Highlights

State	South Carolina	Tennessee	Texas	Vermont	Virginia
Reason for Leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care for a family member with a serious illness</li> <li>Bond with a child within the first 12 months</li> <li>Address a qualifying exigency</li> <li>Care for a family member injured in the line of duty</li> <li>Other reasons specified in the policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birth, adoption, placement of a child for foster care</li> <li>Care of a family member with a serious health condition,</li> <li>The status of a family member of the employee who is a service member on active duty or who has been notified of an impending order to active duty.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care for a family member with a serious health condition,</li> <li>Bond with a child within the first 12 months of birth, adoption, placement for adoption, foster care,</li> <li>Address a qualifying exigency,</li> <li>Care for a family member injured in the line of duty</li> <li>Other family leave as described in the policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bonding with a newborn child, placement of a child for adoption or fostering,</li> <li>Care of a family member with a serious health condition,</li> <li>Any qualifying military exigency</li> <li>Military caregiver leave</li> <li>Employee's own serious health condition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birth or adoption of a child by the employee, placement of a child for foster care</li> <li>Care of a family member of who has a serious health condition</li> <li>Serious health condition of employee</li> <li>Caring for a covered service member</li> <li>Qualifying exigency</li> </ul>
Job Protection and Benefits Continuation	None	None	None	None	None
Private Plans	Voluntary private insurance plan	Voluntary private insurance plan	Voluntary private insurance plan	Voluntary private insurance plan purchased by employers (7/1/2024) or employees (as of 7/1/2025)	Voluntary private insurance plan
Penalties	None	None	None	None	None
Notification Requirements	None	None	none	None	none



# Thank you

Employee Benefits  
Compliance



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