

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION ACT

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

PROHIBITIONS

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

EXEMPTIONS

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

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

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

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

EXAMINEE RIGHTS

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

ENFORCEMENT

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

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



WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

1-866-487-9243
www.dol.gov/agencies/whd



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





THE RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES WHO ARE TRANSGENDER OR GENDER NONCONFORMING

CALIFORNIA LAW PROTECTS TRANSGENDER AND GENDER NONCONFORMING PEOPLE FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION AT WORK. THESE PROTECTIONS ARE ENFORCED BY THE CIVIL RIGHTS DEPARTMENT (CRD).

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. Does California law protect transgender and gender nonconforming employees from employment discrimination?

Yes. All employees, job applicants, unpaid interns, volunteers, and contractors are protected from discrimination at work when based on a protected characteristic, such as their gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, race, or national origin. This means that private employers with five or more employees may not, for example, refuse to hire or promote someone because they identify as – or are perceived to identify as – transgender or non-binary, or because they express their gender in non-stereotypical ways.

Employment discrimination can occur at any time during the hiring or employment process. In addition to refusing to hire or promote someone, unlawful discrimination includes discharging an employee, subjecting them to worse working conditions, or unfairly modifying the terms of their employment because of their gender identity or gender expression.

2. Does California law protect transgender and gender nonconforming employees from harassment at work?

Yes. All employers are prohibited from harassing any employee, intern, volunteer, or contractor because of their gender identity or gender expression. For example, an employer can be liable if co-workers create a hostile work environment – whether in person or virtual – for an employee who is undergoing a gender transition. Similarly, an employer can be liable when customers or other third parties harass an employee because of their gender identity or expression, such as intentionally referring to a gender-nonconforming employee by the wrong pronouns or name.

3. Does California law protect employees who complain about discrimination or harassment in the workplace?

Yes. Employers are prohibited from retaliating against any employee who asserts their right under the law to be free from discrimination or harassment. For example, an employer commits unlawful retaliation when it responds to an employee making a discrimination complaint – to their supervisor, human resources staff, or CRD – by cutting their shifts.

4. If bathrooms, showers, and locker rooms are sex-segregated, can employees choose the one that is most appropriate for them?

Yes. All employees have a right to safe and appropriate restroom and locker room facilities. This includes the right to use a restroom or locker room that corresponds to the employee's gender identity, regardless of the employee's sex assigned at birth. In addition, where possible, an employer should provide an easily accessible, gender-neutral (or "all-gender"), single user facility for use by any employee. The use of single stall restrooms

and other facilities should always be a matter of choice. Employees should never be forced to use one, as a matter of policy or due to harassment.

5. Does an employee have the right to be addressed by the name and pronouns that correspond to their gender identity or gender expression, even if different from their legal name and gender?

Yes. Employees have the right to use and be addressed by the name and pronouns that correspond with their gender identity or gender expression. These are sometimes known as "chosen" or "preferred" names and pronouns. For example, an employee does not need to have legally changed their name or birth certificate, nor have undergone any type of gender transition (such as surgery), to use a name and/or pronouns that correspond with their gender identity or gender expression. An employer may be legally obligated to use an employee's legal name in specific employment records, but when no legal obligation compels the use of a legal name, employers and co-workers must respect an employee's chosen name and pronouns. For example, some businesses utilize software for payroll and other administrative purposes, such as creating work schedules or generating virtual profiles. While it may be appropriate for the business to use a transgender employee's legal name for payroll purposes when legally required, refusing or failing to use that person's chosen name and pronouns, if different from their legal name, on a shift schedule, nametag, instant messaging account, or work ID card could be harassing or discriminatory. CRD recommends that employers take care to ensure that each employee's chosen name and pronouns are respected to the greatest extent allowed by law.

6. Does an employee have the right to dress in a way that corresponds with their gender identity and gender expression?

Yes. An employer who imposes a dress code must enforce it in a non-discriminatory manner. This means that each employee must be allowed to dress in accordance with their gender identity and expression. While an employer may establish a dress code or grooming policy in accord with business necessity, all employees must be held to the same standard, regardless of their gender identity or expression.

7. Can an employer ask an applicant about their sex assigned at birth or gender identity in an interview?

No. Employers may ask non-discriminatory questions, such as inquiring about an applicant's employment history or asking for professional references. But an interviewer should not ask questions designed to detect a person's gender identity or gender transition history such as asking about why the person changed their name. Employers should also not ask questions about a person's body or whether they plan to have surgery.

Want to learn more?

Visit: <https://bit.ly/3hTG1EO>

TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Civil Rights Department

calcivilrights.ca.gov/complaintprocess

Toll Free: 800.884.1684 / TTY: 800.700.2320

California Relay Service (711)

Have a disability that requires a reasonable accommodation?
CRD can assist you with your complaint.



Civil Rights
Department
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA LAW PROHIBITS WORKPLACE DISCRIMINATION & HARASSMENT

The California Civil Rights Department (CRD) enforces laws that protect you from illegal discrimination and harassment in employment based on your actual or perceived:

- **ANCESTRY**
- **AGE** (40 and above)
- **COLOR**
- **DISABILITY** (physical, developmental, mental health/psychiatric, and HIV/AIDS)
- **GENETIC INFORMATION**
- **GENDER EXPRESSION**
- **GENDER IDENTITY**
- **MARITAL STATUS**
- **MEDICAL CONDITION** (genetic characteristics, cancer, or a record or history of cancer)
- **MILITARY OR VETERAN STATUS**
- **NATIONAL ORIGIN** (includes language restrictions and possession of a driver's license issued to undocumented immigrants)
- **RACE** (includes traits associated with race, such as hair texture and hairstyle)
- **RELIGION** (includes religious dress and grooming practices)
- **REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH DECISIONMAKING**
- **SEX/GENDER** (includes pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding and/or related medical conditions)
- **SEXUAL ORIENTATION**



CALIFORNIA LAW PROHIBITS WORKPLACE DISCRIMINATION & HARASSMENT

THE FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING ACT PROTECTS YOUR CIVIL RIGHTS AT WORK.

HARASSMENT

1. The law prohibits harassment of employees, applicants, unpaid interns, volunteers, and independent contractors by any person. This includes a prohibition against harassment based on any characteristic listed in this poster, including sexual harassment. The law prohibits harassment based on a single protected characteristic or a combination of two or more protected characteristics.
2. All employers must take reasonable steps to prevent all forms of harassment, and they must provide each employee with information about the illegal nature of sexual harassment and available legal remedies.
3. Employers with five or more employees and public employers must train their employees regarding the prevention of sexual harassment, including harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation.

DISCRIMINATION/REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

1. California law prohibits employers with five or more employees and public employers from discriminating based on any protected characteristic listed in this poster when making decisions about hiring, promotion, pay, benefits, terms of employment, layoffs, and other aspects of employment. The law prohibits discrimination based on a single protected characteristic or a combination of two or more protected characteristics.
2. Employers cannot limit or prohibit the use of any language in any workplace unless justified by business necessity. The employer must notify employees of the language restriction and consequences for violation.
3. Employers cannot discriminate against an applicant or employee because they possess a California driver's license or ID issued to an undocumented person.
4. Employers must reasonably accommodate the religious beliefs and practices of an employee, unpaid intern, or job applicant, including the wearing of clothing, jewelry, and facial or body hair that are part of an individual's observance of their religious beliefs.
5. Employers must reasonably accommodate an employee or job applicant with a disability to enable them to perform the essential functions of a job.
6. Employers cannot discriminate or retaliate against an employee because of their status, or because of their family member's status, as a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and certain other types of violence — as long as the employer knows of this status. Employers must also provide such employees safety-related reasonable accommodations.

ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS

California law offers additional protections to those who work for employers with five or more employees. Some exceptions may apply. These additional protections include:

1. Specific protections and hiring procedures for people with criminal histories who are looking for employment protections against discrimination based on an employee or job applicant's use of cannabis off the job and away from the workplace

2. Up to 12 weeks of job-protected leave to eligible employees to care for themselves, a family member (child of any age, spouse, domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling) or a designated person (with blood or family-like relationship to employee); to bond with a new child; or for certain urgent military needs
3. Up to five days of job-protected bereavement leave within three months of the death of a family member (child, spouse, parent, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, domestic partner, or parent-in-law)
4. Up to four months of job-protected leave to employees disabled because of pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition, as well as the right to reasonable accommodations, on the advice of their health care provider, related to their pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition
5. Up to five days of job-protected leave following a reproductive loss event (failed adoption, failed surrogacy, miscarriage, stillbirth, or unsuccessful assisted reproduction)
6. Protections for an employee who takes time off work to serve on a jury, if they have given reasonable notice to the employer, or to testify in court
7. Protections for an employee who takes time off work to go to court or seek legal relief (such as a restraining order) after they are the victim of a crime or certain types of violence
8. Protections against retaliation when a person opposes, reports, or assists another person to oppose unlawful discrimination, including filing an internal complaint or a complaint with CRD

REMEDIES/FILING A COMPLAINT

1. The law provides remedies for individuals who experience prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation in the workplace. These remedies can include hiring, front pay, back pay, promotion, reinstatement, cease-and-desist orders, expert witness fees, reasonable attorney's fees and costs, punitive damages, and emotional distress damages.
2. If you believe you have experienced discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, you may file a complaint with CRD. Independent contractors and volunteers: If you believe you have been harassed, you may file a complaint with CRD.
3. Complaints must be filed within three years of the last act of discrimination/harassment/retaliation. For those who are under the age of 18, complaints must be filed within three years after the last act of discrimination/harassment/retaliation or one year after their eighteenth birthday, whichever is later.

If you have been subjected to discrimination, harassment, or retaliation at work, file a complaint with the Civil Rights Department (CRD).

TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Civil Rights Department

calcivilrights.ca.gov/complaintprocess

Toll Free: 800.884.1684 / TTY: 800.700.2320

California Relay Service (711)

Have a disability that requires a reasonable accommodation?
CRD can assist you with your complaint.

The Fair Employment and Housing Act is codified at Government Code sections 12900 -12999. The regulations implementing the Act are at Code of Regulations, title 2, division 4.1

Government Code section 12950 and California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 11023, require all employers to post this document. It must be conspicuously posted in hiring offices, on employee bulletin boards, in employment agency waiting rooms, union halls, and other places employees gather. Any employer whose workforce at any facility or establishment consists of more than 10% of non-English speaking persons must also post this notice in the appropriate language or languages.

FAMILY CARE & MEDICAL LEAVE & PREGNANCY DISABILITY LEAVE



Civil Rights
Department
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



Under California law, an employee may have the right to take job-protected leave to care for their own serious health condition or a family member with a serious health condition, or to bond with a new child (via birth, adoption, or foster care). California law also requires employers to provide job-protected leave and accommodations to employees who are disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.

Under the California Family Rights Act of 1993 (CFRA), many employees have the right to take job-protected leave, which is leave that will allow them to return to their job or a similar job after their leave ends. This leave may be up to 12 work weeks in a 12-month period for:

- The employee's own serious health condition
- The serious health condition of a child, spouse, domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, or someone else with a blood or family-like relationship with the employee ("designated person")
- The birth, adoption, or foster care placement of a child

If an employee takes leave for their own or a family member's serious health condition, leave may be taken on an intermittent or reduced work schedule when medically necessary, among other circumstances.

Eligibility. To be eligible for CFRA leave, an employee must have more than 12 months of service with their employer, have worked at least 1,250 hours in the 12-month period before the date they want to begin their leave, and their employer must have five or more employees.

Pay and Benefits During Leave. While the law guarantees only unpaid leave, some employers pay their employees during CFRA leave. In addition, employees may choose (or employers may require) use of accrued paid leave while taking CFRA leave in certain circumstances. Employees on CFRA leave may also be eligible for benefits administered by the Employment Development Department, including Paid Family Leave. For more information, visit bit.ly/EDD-PFL.

Taking CFRA leave may impact certain employee benefits and an employee's seniority date. If employees want more information regarding eligibility for leave and/or the impact of the leave on seniority and benefits, they should contact their employer.

Pregnancy Disability Leave. When an employee is disabled by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition, the employee is entitled to take a pregnancy disability leave of up to four months, depending on their period(s) of actual disability. If the employee is also eligible for CFRA leave, they have the right to take both pregnancy disability leave and CFRA leave related to the birth of their child.

Reinstatement. Both CFRA leave and pregnancy disability leave guarantee reinstatement to the same position or, in certain instances, a comparable position at the end of the leave, subject to any defense allowed under the law.

Notice. When possible, employees must provide 30 days' advance notice before taking leave for foreseeable event, such as the expected the birth of a child or a planned medical procedure. For unforeseeable events, employees should notify their employers, at least verbally, as soon as they learn of the need for the leave. Failing to provide notice is grounds for, and may result in, deferral of the requested leave until the employee complies with this notice policy.

Certification. Employers may require certification from an employee's health care provider before allowing leave for pregnancy disability or for the employee's own serious health condition. Employers may also require certification from the health care provider of the employee's family member, including a designated person, who has a serious health condition, before granting leave to take care of that family member.

Want to learn more?

Visit: calcivilrights.ca.gov/family-medical-pregnancy-leave/

If you have been subjected to discrimination, harassment, or retaliation at work, or have been improperly denied protected leave, file a complaint with the Civil Rights Department (CRD).

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