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This post is for general informational purposes only and should not be considered to constitute legal advice.

Employment Update: COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Notice

The Labor Commissioner's Office has released the required employee notice for the new COVID-19 Supplemental Sick Leave law.

California employers with 26 or more employees must display the attached poster where employees can easily read it, or disseminate it electronically if employees do not frequent a physical workplace.

FAQs about the new law should be published shortly and will be linked at <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/COVID19resources/FAQs.html>. We will keep you updated as more information becomes available.

As always, please reach out to us if you have any questions or need specific guidance.

2022 COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave

Effective February 19, 2022



Covered employees in the public or private sectors who work for employers with 26 or more employees are entitled to up to 80 hours of 2022 COVID-19 related paid sick leave from January 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, immediately upon an oral or written request to their employer, with up to 40 of those hours available only when an employee or family member tests positive for COVID-19.

A full-time covered employee may take up to 40 hours of leave if the employee is unable to work or telework for any of the following reasons:

- **Vaccine-Related:** The covered employee is attending a vaccine or booster appointment for themselves or a family member* or cannot work or telework because they have vaccine--related symptoms or are caring for a family member with vaccine-related symptoms. An employer may limit an employee to 24 hours or 3 days of leave for each vaccination or booster appointment and any consequent side effects, unless a health care provider verifies that more recovery time is needed.
- **Caring for Yourself:** The employee is subject to quarantine or isolation period related to COVID-19 as defined by an order or guidance of the California Department of Public Health, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or a local public health officer with jurisdiction over the workplace; has been advised by a healthcare provider to quarantine; or is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and seeking a medical diagnosis.
- **Caring for a Family Member*:** The covered employee is caring for a family member who is subject to a COVID-19 quarantine or isolation period or has been advised by a healthcare provider to quarantine due to COVID-19, or is caring for a child whose school or place of care is closed or unavailable due to COVID-19 on the premises.

A full-time covered employee may take up to an additional 40 hours of leave if the employee is unable to work or telework for either of the following reasons:

- The covered employee tests positive for COVID-19
 - The covered employee is caring for a family member* who tested positive for COVID-19.
- * A family member includes a child, parent, spouse, registered domestic partner, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling.

Part-Time covered Employees: Part-time covered employees may take as leave up to the amount of hours they work over two weeks, with half of those hours available only when they or a family member* test positive for COVID-19.

Payment: If an employee took leave for one of the reasons identified above between January 1, 2022 and February 19, 2022, and that leave was either unpaid or compensated at a rate less than the employee's regular rate of pay, the employee may also request a retroactive payment. Payment is at the employee's regular or usual rate of pay, not to exceed \$511 per day and \$5,110 in total.

Retaliation or discrimination against a covered employee requesting or using COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave is strictly prohibited. A covered employee who experiences such retaliation or discrimination can file a claim with the Labor Commissioner's Office. Locate the nearest district office by looking at the [directory on our website](http://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/DistrictOffices.htm) <http://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/DistrictOffices.htm> using the alphabetical listing of cities, locations, and communities or by calling 1-833-526-4636.

This poster must be displayed where employees can easily read it. If employees do not frequent a physical workplace, it may be disseminated to employees electronically.