



HR | Payroll | Benefits | Insurance

# Washington State Labor Law Postings

## OSHA



## Job Safety and Health Law

It's the law! Employers must post this notice where employees can read it.  
(Chapter 49.17 RCW)

All workers have the right to a safe and healthy workplace.

**Employees** — Your employer must protect you from hazards you encounter on the job, tell you about them and provide training.

### You have the right to:

- Notify your employer or L&I about workplace hazards. You may ask L&I to keep your name confidential.
- Request an L&I inspection of the place you work if you believe unsafe or unhealthy conditions exist. You or your employee representative may participate in an inspection, without loss of wages or benefits.
- Get copies of your medical records, including records of exposures to toxic and harmful substances or conditions.
- File a complaint with L&I within 30 days if you believe your employer fired you, or retaliated or discriminated against you because you filed a safety complaint, participated in an inspection or any other safety-related activity.
- Appeal a violation correction date if you believe the time allowed on the citation is not reasonable.

The law requires you to follow workplace safety and health rules that apply to your own actions and conduct on the job.

**Employers** — You have a legal obligation to protect employees on the job.

Employers must provide workplaces free from recognized hazards that could cause employees serious harm or death.

### Actions you must take:

- Comply with all workplace safety and health rules that apply to your business, including developing and implementing a written accident prevention plan (also called an APP or safety program).
- Post this notice to inform your employees of their rights and responsibilities.
- Prior to job assignments, train employees how to prevent hazardous exposures and provide required personal protective equipment at no cost.
- Allow an employee representative to participate in an L&I safety/health inspection, without loss of wages or benefits. The L&I inspector may talk confidentially with a number of employees.
- If you are cited for safety and/or health violations, you must prominently display the citation at or near the place of the violation for a minimum of three days. You cannot remove it until you correct the violation.

Firing or discriminating against any employee for filing a complaint or participating in an inspection, investigation, or opening or closing conference is illegal.

### Employers must report all deaths, in-patient hospitalizations, amputations or loss of an eye.

Report any work-related death or in-patient hospitalization to L&I's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) within 8 hours.

Report any work-related non-hospitalized amputation or loss of an eye to DOSH within 24 hours.

For any work-related death, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye, you must report the following information to DOSH:

- Employer contact person and phone number.
- Name of business.
- Address and location where the work-related incident occurred.
- Date and time of the incident.
- Number of employees and their names.
- Brief description of what happened.

### Where to report:

- Any local L&I office or
- 1-800-423-7233, press 1 (available 24/7)

This poster is available free from L&I at [www.Lni.wa.gov/RequiredPosters](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/RequiredPosters).

Free assistance from the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH)

- Training and resources to promote safe workplaces.
- On-site consultations to help employers identify and fix hazards, and risk management help to lower your workers' compensation costs.



Division of Occupational Safety and Health



[www.Lni.wa.gov/safety-health](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/safety-health)



1-800-423-7233

Upon request, foreign language support and formats for persons with disabilities are available. Call 1-800-547-8367. TDD users, call 711. L&I is an equal opportunity employer.

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## Rights As A Worker



## Your Rights as a Worker

### It's the law!

Employers must post this notice where employees can read it.

### Wage and Overtime Laws

#### Workers must be paid the Washington minimum wage

- Most workers who are 16 years of age or older must be paid at least the minimum wage for all hours worked. See [www.Lni.wa.gov/MinWage](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/MinWage).
- Workers who are 14 or 15 may be paid 85% of the minimum wage.
- Tips cannot be counted as part of the minimum wage. Employers must pay all tips to employees.

#### Overtime pay is due when working more than 40 hours

Most workers must be paid one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a fixed seven-day workweek.

### Workers Need Meal and Rest Breaks

#### Meal period

Most workers are entitled to a 30-minute unpaid meal period if working more than five hours in a day. If you must remain on duty during your meal period, you must be paid for the 30 minutes. Agricultural workers are entitled to a second 30-minute unpaid meal period if they work more than 11 hours in a day. Learn more at [www.Lni.wa.gov/workersrights/workplace-policies/rest-breaks-meal-periods-and-schedules](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/workersrights/workplace-policies/rest-breaks-meal-periods-and-schedules).

#### Breaks

- Most workers are entitled to a 10-minute paid rest break for each four hours worked and must not work more than three hours without a break.
- Agricultural workers must have a 10-minute paid rest break within each four-hour period of work.
- If you are under 18, see "Teen Corner" at right.

### Pay Requirements

#### Regular Payday

Workers must be paid at least once a month on a regularly scheduled payday. Your employer must give you a pay statement showing the number of hours worked, rate of pay, number of piece work units (if piece work), gross pay, the pay period and all deductions taken.

For more information regarding authorized deductions, go to [www.Lni.wa.gov/workers-rights/wages/getting-paid](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/workers-rights/wages/getting-paid) and click on "Paycheck deductions"

#### Equal Pay and Opportunities Act

Under this law, your employer is prohibited from providing unequal pay or career advancement opportunities based on gender. You also have the right to disclose, compare, or discuss your wages or the wages of other employees. Your employer cannot take any adverse action against you for discussing wages, filing a complaint, or exercising other protected rights under the Equal Pay and Opportunities Act. Employers also are prohibited from requesting a job applicant's wage or salary history, except under certain circumstances, and cannot require an applicant's wage or salary history meet certain criteria. Job applicants also have the right to certain salary information if the employer has 15 or more employees. For more information or to file a complaint, go to [www.Lni.wa.gov/EqualPay](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/EqualPay).

### Teen Corner – Information for Workers Ages 14–17

- The minimum age for work is generally 14, with different rules for ages 14–15 and ages 16–17.
- Employers must have a minor work permit to employ teens. This requirement applies to family members except on family farms. Teens do not need a work permit.
- Teens are required to have authorization forms signed before they begin working. For summer employment, parents must sign the Parent Authorization for Summer Work form. If you work during the school year, a parent and a school official must sign the Parent/ School Authorization form.
- Many jobs are not allowed for anyone under 18 because they are not safe.
- Work hours are limited for teens, with more restrictions on work hours during school weeks.

#### Meal and rest breaks for teens

- In agricultural work, teens of any age get a meal period of 30 minutes if working more than five hours, and a 10-minute paid break for each four hours worked.
- In all other industries, teens who are 16 or 17 must have a 30-minute meal period if working more than five hours, and a 10-minute paid break for each four hours worked. They must have the rest break at least every three hours.
- Teens who are 14 or 15 must have a 30-minute meal period no later than the end of the fourth hour, and a 10-minute paid break for every two hours worked.

To find out more about teens in the workplace: [www.Lni.wa.gov/TeenWorkers](http://www.Lni.wa.gov/TeenWorkers), 1-866-219-7321, [TeenSafety@Lni.wa.gov](mailto:TeenSafety@Lni.wa.gov).

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## Paid Family And Medical Leave

# Paid time off. Peace of mind.

Paid Family and Medical Leave provides paid time off when a serious health condition prevents you from working, when you need to care for a family member or a new child, or for certain military-related events. It's here for you when you need it most, so you can focus on what matters.

### How it works



Nearly every Washington worker—whether you work full time or part time in a small to large business—is eligible for up to 12 weeks of Paid Family and Medical Leave. You need to work 820 hours in Washington, or about 16 hours per week, over the course of about a year. You can get up to 16 weeks if you have family and medical events in the same year, or up to 18 weeks in some cases. Leave doesn't have to be taken all at once. You can use these weeks within your "claim year," which starts when you apply and then runs for the next 52 weeks. When that claim year expires you can then be eligible for leave again.

You apply for leave with the Employment Security Department and will get partial wage replacement, up to 90 percent of your typical pay, capped at **\$1,327** per week.

### Your rights



If you meet the requirements, you have the right to take paid time off using Paid Family and Medical Leave.

If you qualify for Paid Family and Medical Leave, your employer cannot prevent you from taking it. Your employer also cannot require you to use other types of leave, such as sick or vacation days, before or after taking Paid Family and Medical Leave. The program is funded by premiums shared between workers and many employers. The premium is .6% of your wage. You may pay about 73% of that total and your employer (if they have 50 or more employees) pays the rest. A calculator to estimate premiums is available on our website.

To file a complaint against your employer about Paid Family and Medical Leave, email or call our Customer Care Team at [paidleave@esd.wa.gov](mailto:paidleave@esd.wa.gov) or (833) 717-2273.

You may also contact the Office of the Paid Family and Medical Leave Ombuds. The Ombuds is appointed by the governor and serves as a neutral, independent third party to help workers and employers in their dealings with the Department. The Office of the Ombuds investigates, reports on and helps settle complaints about service deficiencies and concerns with the Paid Family and Medical Leave program. Learn more at [www.paidleaveombuds.wa.gov](http://www.paidleaveombuds.wa.gov) or call the Ombuds' office at 844-395-6697.

Learn more and apply at [paidleave.wa.gov](http://paidleave.wa.gov)



Updated 12/2021

## Domestic Violence Resources

# Everyone deserves a healthy relationship

No one ever deserves to be mistreated.

Abuse is a pattern of behavior that one person uses to gain power and control over another. These behaviors can include isolation, emotional abuse, monitoring, controlling finances, or physical and sexual assault.

Everyone should be free to make their own choices in relationships. If you are experiencing harm or need advice, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline. You can reach their advocates 24/7/365 to get the support you deserve. No names, no fees, and no judgement. Just help. 800-799-SAFE (7233) or 800-787-3224 (TTY).

[www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)

You can also find a program in your area that can help. Find out more about what kind of help is available at [wsacadv.org/get-help-now](http://wsacadv.org/get-help-now).



The Employment Security Department is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Language assistance services for limited English proficient individuals are available free of charge. Washington Relay Service: 7 11

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## Unemployment Insurance

# You may be eligible for UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS if you lose your job

Visit [www.esd.wa.gov](http://www.esd.wa.gov) to apply and click "Sign in or create an account"



### To apply for unemployment, you will need

- Your Social Security number.
- Names and addresses of everyone you worked for in the last 18 months.
- Dates you started and stopped working for each employer.
- Reasons you left each job.
- Your alien registration number if you are not a U.S. citizen.
- Your SF8 and SF50 (if you worked for the Federal Government in the last 18 months).
- Your Washington State ID or License, if applicable.

If you were in the military within the last 18 months, we will also ask you to fax or mail us a copy of your discharge papers (Form DD214 member 4 or higher).

### The fastest way to apply is online at [esd.wa.gov](http://esd.wa.gov)

If you don't have a home computer, you can access one at a WorkSource center or your local library.

### If you can't apply online, try contacting us over the phone

Call 800-318-6022. Persons with hearing or speaking impairments can call Washington Relay Service 711. We are available to help you Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., except on state holidays. You may experience long wait times.

### You must look for work each week that you claim benefits

Visit WorkSource to find all the FREE resources you need to find a job. These include workshops, computers, copiers, phones, fax machines, Internet access, and job listings. Log onto [WorkSourceWA.com](http://WorkSourceWA.com) to find the nearest office.

If your work hours have been reduced to part-time, you may qualify for partial unemployment benefits.

If you have been unemployed due to a work-related injury or non-work-related illness or injury and are now able to work again, you may be eligible for Temporary Total Disability (TTD) unemployment benefits.

For more information, please refer to the Handbook for Unemployed Workers at [ESD.WA.GOV](http://ESD.WA.GOV).

Employers are legally required to post this notice in a place convenient for employees to read (see RCW 50.20.140).

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ESD.WA.GOV

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