



Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO
FACULTY REQUESTING
MILITARY FAMILY LEAVE
(QUALIFYING EXIGENCY)**

NAME:

Date:

This notice will serve as a reminder that faculty employees who are unable to work for a period of thirty (30) calendar days will be taken off the institution's payroll at the end of the 30-day period (See SCP-2006 § 6.5.4).

This period of medical leave counts toward entitlement of Military Family Leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), which provides up to 12 weeks job-protected leave for eligible employees with a family member on active duty or call to active duty status in the National Guard or Reserves in support of a contingency operation to address certain qualifying exigencies.

Certain qualifying exigencies may include attending certain military events, arranging for alternative childcare, addressing certain financial and legal arrangements, attending certain counseling sessions, and attending post-deployment reintegration briefings.

Leave due to qualifying exigencies may be taken on an intermittent basis.

Please refer to SCP-2006 for additional information regarding Employee Leave.

Contact Human Resources:

Doug Kennedy

304.896.7408 or doug.kennedy@southernwv.edu

or

Susan Ross

304.896.7445 or susan.ross@southernwv.edu



REQUEST FOR MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR MILITARY FAMILY LEAVE

Name: _____ Employee ID No: _____

Title: _____ Dept: _____

I hereby request a leave of absence as follows:

Beginning Date: _____ Ending Date: _____

Purpose of Leave:

The birth of a child, or placement of a child with you for adoption or foster care

Your own serious health condition

You are needed to care for your spouse, child, or parent due to his/her serious health condition

Qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that your spouse, son or daughter, or parent is on active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation as a member of the National Guard or Reserves

You are the spouse, son or daughter, parent, or next of kin of a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness

I understand that while on an approved Leave of Absence, I am required to continue to pay my respective proportionate share of health/life/hospitalization/drug insurance coverage premium cost. I further understand that if the approved leave continues after 12 consecutive months, I may be required to pay the full cost of coverage (employee and employer's share).

I further understand that prior to my return to work, I am required to submit to my employer the *Return to Work Authorization /Medical Release* form from the treating licensed physician (except in the case of Military Family Leave due to qualifying exigency).

I further understand that the extent of this leave will count toward entitlement of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), which provides up to 12 weeks job-protected leave to eligible employees for certain family and medical reasons and up to 26 weeks job-protected leave to eligible employees to care for a covered servicemember under the Military Family Leave entitlement. See the attached publication by the U.S. Department of Labor entitled "*Employee Rights and Responsibilities Under the Family and Medical Leave Act*" (WHD Publication 1420).

I further understand that any extension of this leave must be requested in writing by completing a new Request for Medical Leave of Absence or Military Family Leave and provide a new Certification, and be submitted for the President's approval prior to the expiration of this approved leave.

I understand that approval of this Request does not guarantee payment of wages, leave or other compensation and that all policies, rules, and laws in regard to leave payment apply.

**** IMPORTANT ****

This request form **MUST** be accompanied by either a *Certification of Health Care Provider* (DOL Form WH-380-E or WH-380-F), *Certification of Qualifying Exigency* (DOL Form WH-384), or a *Certification for Serious Injury or Illness of Covered Servicemember* (Form WH-385)

I recommend approval of this leave ___Yes ___No

Employee's Signature Date

I recommend approval of this leave ___Yes ___No

Supervisor's Signature Date

I recommend approval of this leave ___Yes ___No

Unit Administrator's Signature Date

Approved Denied

Human Resources Administrator's Signature Date

President or Designee's Signature Date

RESERVED FOR HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BOX

I. Date leave commenced _____ Expected end date _____

II. Non-Faculty Employees Only:

1. Verification of Leave Balances as of _____ (Date)

Annual Leave _____ days

Sick Leave _____ days

2. Exhaustion of all sick/annual leave as of _____
(Date & Time)

3. Date Catastrophic Leave Request Form Sent _____
(30 days prior to expiration of leave)

4. Applied for Catastrophic Leave? YES NO N/A

III. Date notification letter sent: _____

IV. Verification of receipt of monthly physician's statement:

<u>Month</u> (List below)	<u>Date Rec'd in HR</u>	<u>Month</u> (List Below)	<u>Date Rec'd in HR</u>
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

V. Verification of receipt of monthly insurance premiums:

<u>Month</u> (List below)	<u>Date Rec'd in HR</u>	<u>Month</u> (List Below)	<u>Date Rec'd in HR</u>
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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

VI. Date of Actual Return to Work/Duty: _____

OR

Date extension of leave requested: _____

PART A: QUALIFYING REASON FOR LEAVE

1. Describe the reason you are requesting FMLA leave due to a qualifying exigency (including the specific reason you are requesting leave):

2. A complete and sufficient certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to a qualifying exigency includes any available written documentation which supports the need for leave; such documentation may include a copy of a meeting announcement for informational briefings sponsored by the military, a document confirming an appointment with a counselor or school official, or a copy of a bill for services for the handling of legal or financial affairs. Available written documentation supporting this request for leave is attached. Yes No None Available

PART B: AMOUNT OF LEAVE NEEDED

1. Approximate date exigency commenced: _____

Probable duration of exigency: _____

2. Will you need to be absent from work for a single continuous period of time due to the qualifying exigency? No Yes.

If so, estimate the beginning and ending dates for the period of absence:

3. Will you need to be absent from work periodically to address this qualifying exigency? No Yes.

Estimate schedule of leave, including the dates of any scheduled meetings or appointments: _____

Estimate the frequency and duration of each appointment, meeting, or leave event, including any travel time (i.e., 1 deployment-related meeting every month lasting 4 hours):

Frequency: _____ times per _____ week(s) _____ month(s)

Duration: _____ hours _____ day(s) per event.

PART C:

If leave is requested to meet with a third party (such as to arrange for childcare, to attend counseling, to attend meetings with school or childcare providers, to make financial or legal arrangements, to act as the covered military member's representative before a federal, state, or local agency for purposes of obtaining, arranging or appealing military service benefits, or to attend any event sponsored by the military or military service organizations), a complete and sufficient certification includes the name, address, and appropriate contact information of the individual or entity with whom you are meeting (i.e., either the telephone or fax number or email address of the individual or entity). This information may be used by your employer to verify that the information contained on this form is accurate.

Name of Individual: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Describe nature of meeting: _____

PART D:

I certify that the information I provided above is true and correct.

Signature of Employee

Date

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

If submitted, it is mandatory for employers to retain a copy of this disclosure in their records for three years. 29 U.S.C. § 2616; 29 C.F.R. § 825.500. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Department of Labor estimates that it will take an average of 20 minutes for respondents to complete this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to the Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution AV, NW, Washington, DC 20210. **DO NOT SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION; RETURN IT TO THE EMPLOYER.**

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

Basic Leave Entitlement

FMLA requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for the following reasons:

- for incapacity due to pregnancy, prenatal medical care or child birth;
- to care for the employee's child after birth, or placement for adoption or foster care;
- to care for the employee's spouse, son, daughter or parent, who has a serious health condition; or
- for a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job.

Military Family Leave Entitlements

Eligible employees whose spouse, son, daughter or parent is on covered active duty or call to covered active duty status may use their 12-week leave entitlement to address certain qualifying exigencies. Qualifying exigencies may include attending certain military events, arranging for alternative childcare, addressing certain financial and legal arrangements, attending certain counseling sessions, and attending post-deployment reintegration briefings.

FMLA also includes a special leave entitlement that permits eligible employees to take up to 26 weeks of leave to care for a covered servicemember during a single 12-month period. A covered servicemember is: (1) a current member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves, who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list, for a serious injury or illness*; or (2) a veteran who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable at any time during the five-year period prior to the first date the eligible employee takes FMLA leave to care for the covered veteran, and who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for a serious injury or illness.*

***The FMLA definitions of "serious injury or illness" for current servicemembers and veterans are distinct from the FMLA definition of "serious health condition".**

Benefits and Protections

During FMLA leave, the employer must maintain the employee's health coverage under any "group health plan" on the same terms as if the employee had continued to work. Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to their original or equivalent positions with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms.

Use of FMLA leave cannot result in the loss of any employment benefit that accrued prior to the start of an employee's leave.

Eligibility Requirements

Employees are eligible if they have worked for a covered employer for at least 12 months, have 1,250 hours of service in the previous 12 months*, and if at least 50 employees are employed by the employer within 75 miles.

***Special hours of service eligibility requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.**

Definition of Serious Health Condition

A serious health condition is an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves either an overnight stay in a medical care facility, or continuing treatment by a health care provider for a condition that either prevents the employee from performing the functions of the employee's job, or prevents the qualified family member from participating in school or other daily activities.

Subject to certain conditions, the continuing treatment requirement may be met by a period of incapacity of more than 3 consecutive calendar days combined with at least two visits to a health care provider or one visit and

a regimen of continuing treatment, or incapacity due to pregnancy, or incapacity due to a chronic condition. Other conditions may meet the definition of continuing treatment.

Use of Leave

An employee does not need to use this leave entitlement in one block. Leave can be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule when medically necessary. Employees must make reasonable efforts to schedule leave for planned medical treatment so as not to unduly disrupt the employer's operations. Leave due to qualifying exigencies may also be taken on an intermittent basis.

Substitution of Paid Leave for Unpaid Leave

Employees may choose or employers may require use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. In order to use paid leave for FMLA leave, employees must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

Employee Responsibilities

Employees must provide 30 days advance notice of the need to take FMLA leave when the need is foreseeable. When 30 days notice is not possible, the employee must provide notice as soon as practicable and generally must comply with an employer's normal call-in procedures.

Employees must provide sufficient information for the employer to determine if the leave may qualify for FMLA protection and the anticipated timing and duration of the leave. Sufficient information may include that the employee is unable to perform job functions, the family member is unable to perform daily activities, the need for hospitalization or continuing treatment by a health care provider, or circumstances supporting the need for military family leave. Employees also must inform the employer if the requested leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified. Employees also may be required to provide a certification and periodic recertification supporting the need for leave.

Employer Responsibilities

Covered employers must inform employees requesting leave whether they are eligible under FMLA. If they are, the notice must specify any additional information required as well as the employees' rights and responsibilities. If they are not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for the ineligibility.

Covered employers must inform employees if leave will be designated as FMLA-protected and the amount of leave counted against the employee's leave entitlement. If the employer determines that the leave is not FMLA-protected, the employer must notify the employee.

Unlawful Acts by Employers

FMLA makes it unlawful for any employer to:

- interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of any right provided under FMLA; and
- discharge or discriminate against any person for opposing any practice made unlawful by FMLA or for involvement in any proceeding under or relating to FMLA.

Enforcement

An employee may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

FMLA does not affect any Federal or State law prohibiting discrimination, or supersede any State or local law or collective bargaining agreement which provides greater family or medical leave rights.

FMLA section 109 (29 U.S.C. § 2619) requires FMLA covered employers to post the text of this notice. Regulation 29 C.F.R. § 825.300(a) may require additional disclosures.



For additional information:
1-866-4US-WAGE (1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627
WWW.WAGEHOUR.DOL.GOV

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



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