

On June 28, Governor Charlie Baker signed into law the Massachusetts Paid Family and Medical Leave (MA PFML) program. Benefits through the program will begin on January 1, 2021, while deductions to fund the program begin October 1, 2019.

Additional information available at:

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/paid-family-medical-leave-for-employees-faq

Please see the attached notice for a detailed explanation of the new law and how it will affect you.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Sara Pacheco in our accounting department to answer any questions or concerns that you might have.

Thank you,

Monument Staffing, Inc.

Notice of Benefits Available Under M.G.L. Chapter 175M

Paid Family and Medical Leave

Beginning on October 1, 2019:

Employers will deduct payroll contributions from a covered individual's wages or other earnings to fund PFML benefits.

Beginning on January 1, 2021:

- Covered individuals may be entitled to up to 20 weeks of paid medical leave in a benefit year if they have a serious health condition that incapacitates them from work.
- Covered individuals may be entitled to up to 12 weeks of paid family leave in a benefit year related to the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of a child, or because of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that a family member is on active duty or has been notified of an impending call to active duty in the Armed Forces.
- Covered individuals may be entitled to up to 26 weeks of paid family leave in a benefit year to care for a family member who is a covered service member with a serious health condition.

Beginning on July 1, 2021:

 Covered individuals may be entitled to up to 12 weeks of paid family leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition.

Covered individuals are eligible for no more than 26 total weeks, in the aggregate, of paid family and medical leave in a single benefit year.

Who is a Covered Individual Under the Law?



Generally, a worker qualifies as a covered individual and may be eligible for paid family and medical leave if:

- · S/he is paid wages by a Massachusetts employer; or
- S/he resides in Massachusetts and is paid for contract services by a Massachusetts entity that is required to report payment for services on IRS Form 1099-MISC for more than 50 percent of its workforce; or
- · S/he is a self-employed individual who resides in Massachusetts and chooses to opt-in to the program.

Job Protection

Generally, an employee who has taken paid family or medical leave must be restored to the employee's previous position or to an equal position, with the same status, pay, employment benefits, length-of-service credit, and seniority as of the date of leave.

These job protections do not apply to contractors.

Weekly Benefits

To fund PFML benefits, employers will deduct payroll contributions from a covered individual's wages or other earnings beginning on Oct. 1, 2019. Covered individuals can apply for benefits beginning in January 2021 through the Department of Family and Medical Leave. A covered individual's average weekly earnings will determine his or her benefit amount, for a maximum weekly benefit of up to \$850.

No Retaliation or Discrimination

- It is unlawful for an employer to discriminate or retaliate against an employee for exercising any right to which s/he is entitled under the law.
- An employee or former employee who is discriminated or retaliated against for exercising rights under the law may, not
 more than three years after the violation occurs, institute a civil action in the superior court, and may be entitled to
 damages of as much as three times his or her lost wages.

Private Plans

If an employer offers employees paid family leave, medical leave, or both, with benefits that are at least as generous as those provided under the law, the employer may apply for an exemption from paying the contributions. Employees continue to be protected from discrimination and retaliation under the law even when an employer opts to provide paid leave benefits through a private plan.



If you have questions or concerns about your Paid Family and Medical Leave rights, please contact:

MassPFML@Mass.gov or visit: https://www.mass.gov/DFML

Employer Notice to W2 Employee

Covered Entities with 25 or more Workers

Rights and Obligations under the Massachusetts Family and Medical Leave Law, M.G.L. c. 175M

Monument Staffing, Inc
(Employer Name)
109-115 Broad St, 4 th Floor
(Employer Street Address)
Boston, MA 02110
(Employer City, State, Zip)
41-2046560
(Federal Employer ID Number) (FEIN)

Explanation of Benefits

- Beginning January 1, 2021, you may be entitled to up to
 - 12 weeks of paid family leave in a benefit year for the birth, adoption, or foster care placement of a child, or because of a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that a family member is on active duty or has been notified of an impending call to active duty in the Armed Forces;
 - 20 weeks of paid medical leave in a benefit year if they have a serious health condition that incapacitates them from work
 - o 26 weeks of paid family leave in a benefit year to care for a family member who is a covered service member undergoing medical treatment or otherwise addressing consequences of a serious health condition relating to the family member's military service.
- Beginning July 1, 2021, you may be entitled to up to
 - 12 weeks of paid family leave in a benefit year to care for a family member with a serious health condition.
 - o 26 total weeks, in the aggregate, of paid family and medical leave in a single benefit year.
- Your weekly benefit amount will be based on the employee's earnings, with a maximum benefit
 of \$850 per week.

Job Protection, Continuation of Health Insurance, No Retaliation

- **Job Protection:** Generally, if you take family or medical leave under the law you must be restored to your previous position or to an equivalent position, with the same status, pay, employment benefits, length-of-service credit and seniority as of the date of leave.
- Continuation of Health Insurance: Your employer must continue to provide for and contribute to your employment-related health insurance benefits, if any, at the level and under the conditions coverage would have been provided if you had continued working continuously for the duration of such leave.
- No Retaliation: It is unlawful for any employer to discriminate or retaliate against you for exercising
 any right to which you're entitled under the paid family and medical leave law. An employee or
 former employee who is discriminated or retaliated against for exercising rights under the law may,
 not more than three years after the violation occurs, institute a civil action in the superior court.

Contributions to the DFML Family and Employment Security Trust Fund

On October 1, 2019, contributions to the Department of Family and Medical Leave (DFML) Employment Security Trust Fund will begin. An employer will be responsible for sending contributions to the DFML for all employees, though they may deduct a portion from employee pay. The contribution rate may be adjusted annually and can be found in the attached effective rate notice.

How to File a Claim

Employees must file claims for paid family and medical leave benefits with the DFML using the Department's forms. Forms and claim instructions will be available on the Department's website www.mass.gov/DFML before January 2021.

Employees are required to provide at least 30 days' notice to their employer of the anticipated starting date of any leave, the anticipated length of the leave and the expected date of return. An employee who is unable to provide 30 days' notice due to circumstances beyond his or her control is required to provide notice as soon as practicable.

Payment for Concurrent Leave

Any paid leave provided under a collective bargaining agreement or employer policy and paid at the same or higher rate than paid leave available under this law shall count against the allotment of leave benefits available under this law.

Private Plan Exemption

An employer that offers paid leave with benefits that are at least as generous as those provided under the law may apply for an exemption from paying the Department of Family and Medical Leave Family and Employment Security Trust Fund contribution. An employer may apply for an exemption from the medical leave contribution, family leave contribution, or both.

The details of any private plan must be provided to employees by an employer at the same time as this Notice.

Employees enjoy rights to job-protected leave and from discrimination and retaliation under the law even if their employer is approved to provide leave benefits through a private plan.

A	Does not have an approved private plan;
Monument Staffing, Inc	Has an approved private plan for both family and medical leave;
(Employer Name)	☐ Has an approved private plan for family leave only;
	☐ Has an approved private plan for medical leave only.

Department of Family and Medical Leave (DFML) Contact Information

The Massachusetts Department of Family and Medical Leave

Charles F. Hurley Building 19 Staniford Street, 1st Floor Boston, MA 02114 (617) 626-6565 www.mass.gov/DFML

More Information is Available

For more detailed information, please consult the Department's website: www.mass.gov/DFML.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Your signature below acknowledges your receipt of the information above within 30 days from the start date of your employment or prior to October 1, 2019, whichever is later.

Signature	Date				

Your signed acknowledgement will be retained by your employer. Please retain a copy for your own reference.

Effective Rates: 2019

For employers with 25 or more employees

Family Leave	Medical Leave	Total Contribution
Contribution	Contribution	Amount
.13%	.62%	.75%

On October 1, 2019, contributions to the Department of Family and Medical Leave (DFML) Employment Security Trust Fund will begin. An employer will be responsible for sending contributions to the DFML for all employees.

Currently, the total contribution amount is 00.75% of wages. Of that 00.75% total contribution amount, there is a split: 17.3% is a family leave contribution and 82.7% is a medical leave contribution.

Under the law, employers are responsible for a minimum of 60% of the medical leave contribution (.372% of wages), but are permitted to deduct from employees' wages up to 40% of the medical leave contribution (.248% of wages) and up to 100% of the family leave contribution (.13% of wages).

ve	Tota	al Required Contributio	n: .62%	
Medical Leave	Monument Staffing, Inc	will contribute	60%	of the medical leave contribution
edic	(Employer Name)			
Σ	,	and the remaining	40%	will be deducted from your earnings

4)	Tota	I Required Contributio	n: .13%	
Family Leave	Monument Staffing, Inc	will contribute	0%	of the family leave contribution
Farr	(Employer Name)	**		The standard for an area
		and the remaining	100%	will be deducted from your earnings

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