

Earned Sick and Safe Time (ESSL)



Sick time

For physical or mental health conditions, illness or injury



Safe time

To address domestic abuse, sexual assault or stalking

Temporary and part-time employees are eligible for sick and safe time. Sick and safe time requirements will not apply to building and construction industry employees who are represented by a building and construction trades labor organization if a valid waiver of these requirements is provided in a collective bargaining agreement.

HOW MUCH LEAVE CAN EMPLOYEES EARN?

An employee earns one hour of sick and safe time for every 30 hours worked and can earn a maximum of 48 hours each year unless the employer agrees to a higher amount.

AT WHAT RATE MUST THE LEAVE BE PAID?

Sick and safe time must be paid at the same hourly rate an employee earns when they are working.

WHAT CAN THE LEAVE BE USED FOR?

Employees can use their earned sick and safe time for reasons such as:

- the employee's mental or physical illness, treatment or preventive care;
- a family member's mental or physical illness, treatment or preventive care;
- absence due to domestic abuse, sexual assault or stalking of the employee or a family member;
- closure of the employee's workplace due to weather or public emergency or closure of a family member's school or care facility due to weather or public emergency; and
- when determined by a health authority or health care professional that the employee or family member is at risk of infecting others with a communicable disease.

WHICH FAMILY MEMBERS ARE INCLUDED?

Employees may use earned sick and safe time for their following family members:

1. their child, including foster child, adult child, legal ward, child for whom the employee is legal guardian or child to whom the employee stands or stood in loco parentis (in place of a parent);
2. their spouse or registered domestic partner;
3. their sibling, stepsibling or foster sibling;
4. their biological, adoptive or foster parent, stepparent or a person who stood in loco parentis (in place of a parent) when the employee was a minor child;
5. their grandchild, foster grandchild or step-grandchild;
6. their grandparent or step-grandparent;
7. a child of a sibling of the employee;
8. a sibling of the parents of the employee;
9. a child-in-law or sibling-in-law;
10. any of the family members listed in 1 through 9 above of an employee's spouse or registered domestic partner;
11. any other individual related by blood or whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship; and
12. up to one individual annually designated by the employee.