

# Health Care Providers: Safe Leave

A new program that allows employees in Oregon to take paid time off for some of life's most important moments that impact our families, health and safety. Benefits begin Sept. 3, 2023, and your patients or their families can apply as early as August 14.

#### Your patients can take safe leave:

To take time for support and care if they or their child experience sexual assault, domestic violence, harassment, or stalking.

## What is covered under safe leave?

Your patient is covered under safe leave if any of the following examples apply:

- They need legal assistance or help from the police to protect them or their child's health and safety. This includes preparing for and participating in court hearings that are related to sexual assault, domestic violence, harassment, or stalking.
- The patient or their child needs medical treatment or to recover from injuries that were caused by domestic violence, harassment, sexual assault, or stalking.
- The patient or their child is getting counseling from a mental health professional because of an experience with sexual assault, domestic violence, harassment, or stalking.
- The patient or their child is getting services from a victim services provider because of an experience with sexual assault, domestic violence, harassment, or stalking.
- The patient needs to move or make their current home secure to protect their or their child's health and safety.

## What is your role as a health care provider with Paid Leave Oregon?

To complete the Paid Leave application process, your patients need to show that they have a qualifying event. Qualifying events are the reasons your patients need to take paid leave.

Qualifying events differ depending on the type of leave your patient wishes to take. Patients may qualify for medical, family, or safe leave.

paidleave.oregon.gov Healthcare Providers EN | 7/2023 Your role as a provider is to give your patients the information they need to verify their safe leave. Your patient may ask you to fill a section of the Safe Leave Verification Form, which will be on our website when the program begins.

We also accept documentation from an attorney, police officer, **health care provider**, **mental health professional or counselor**, a recognized representative of a religious community, or victim services provider that the patient or their child are or were getting treatment or counseling, accessing services, or moving because of sexual assault, domestic violence, harassment, or stalking.

For example, if your patient needs to take safe leave from work so that they can receive treatment or counseling, you would need to help them verify that by providing documentation. Your patient will then send the completed forms through Frances Online (online claim system) or by mail to Paid Leave.

Other documents patients can use include:

- A copy of a federal agency or state, local, or Tribal police report, or a formal complaint to a school's Title IX Coordinator that shows that your patient or their child are a victim of sexual assault, domestic violence, harassment, or stalking.
- A copy of a protective order or other documentation from a federal, state, local, or Tribal court, administrative agency, school's Title IX Coordinator, or attorney that your or their child appeared in or are preparing for any type of legal proceeding (civil, criminal, or administrative) related to sexual assault, domestic violence, harassment, or stalking.

## How can I help make this process easier for my patients?

Fill out the form electronically and send the completed form to your patients by email or through the patient portal so that they can include it with their application. If you or your patients fill out a paper copy, and your patients use Frances Online, they will need to take a picture of the form with their phone and upload it to complete their application. If you or your patients fill out a paper copy, make sure all responses are legible and complete. Incomplete or illegible responses may cause delays. Patients can also mail completed forms. It may take longer for your patients to receive a response to their application.

#### **Contact Paid Leave Oregon**

Form: <u>Contact Us</u> Email: <u>paidleave@oregon.gov</u> or call: 833-854-0166 (toll-free)