



The mission of the Department of Fair Employment and Housing is to protect the people of California from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations, and from the perpetration of acts of hate violence.

or foster child or to bond with a newborn.

- An eligible CFRA employee may take **unpaid** leave to care for a parent, spouse, or child with a serious health condition. CFRA leave may also be taken for the employee's own serious health condition.
- Full-time employees may take leave of up to 12 work weeks in a 12-month period. Part-time employees may take leave on a proportional basis. The leave does not need to be taken in one continuous period of time.
- An employer may require a 30-day advance notice of the need for a CFRA-qualifying leave. When this is not possible due to the unexpected nature of the leave, notice should be given as soon as practicable. Notice can be written or verbal and should include the timing and the anticipated duration of the leave. An employer must respond to a leave request within 10 calendar days.
- The employer may require written communication from the health-care provider of the child, parent, spouse, or employee with a serious health condition stating the reasons for the

leave and the probable duration of the condition.

- Employees are entitled to take CFRA leave in addition to any leave entitlement they might have under PDL. Leave taken for the birth or adoption of a child must be completed within **one year** of the event.
- In addition to the family care and medical leave requirements of the CFRA, employers of five or more persons have additional obligations pertaining to PDL. Please refer to the DFEH publication "Facts on Pregnancy Disability Leave" for more information.

Salary and Benefits During CFRA Leave

- Employers are **not** required to pay employees during a CFRA leave. An employer may require an employee to use accrued vacation time or other accumulated paid leave other than sick time. If the CFRA leave is for the employee's own serious health condition, the use of sick time **can be** required.
- If the employer provides health benefits under a group plan, the employer must continue to make these benefits available during the leave. The employee is also entitled to accrual of seniority and participation in other benefit plans.

Return Rights After CFRA Leave

- After CFRA leave, employees are guaranteed a return to the same or comparable position and can request the guarantee in writing.
- If the same position is no longer available, such as in a layoff or closure, the employer must offer a position that is comparable in terms of pay, location, job content, and promotional opportunities, unless the employer can prove that no comparable position exists. An employee is not entitled to reinstatement if the employee would have been otherwise laid off or terminated.

Family Temporary Disability Insurance (FTDI) or "Paid Family Leave"

Employees on CFRA leave of absence may also be eligible for six weeks of **paid** leave under FTDI, a program administered by the California Employment Development Department (EDD). For further information, contact the EDD at (800) 480-3287 or visit the web site at www.edd.ca.gov.

Filing a Complaint

If you believe your CFRA rights have been violated, you can explore filing a complaint with DFEH by following these steps: