University of Houston Clear Lake
Human Resources

Family and Medical Leave: Required Paperwork for Family Member

Your anticipated absence for your family member's serious health issue may qualify for benefits under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) of 1993. This letter is to advise you of your rights and the steps necessary for you to take in order to begin the FMLA request process.

FMLA is a federal law that protects your job and benefits while you are on leave; it provides 480 hours/12 weeks of job and benefit protection; it does not guarantee pay and it does not provide additional leave hours. You are required to use your accrued leave before going into an unpaid status, if applicable, and these hours run concurrently with FML. The paperwork is required to determine if the circumstances qualify for FML and to accurately determine if the circumstances qualify for the use of sick leave, vacation leave and/or unpaid leave. Please be assured this paperwork is kept separately from your personnel file and all medical information is confidential.

To request leave under FMLA there are certain documents required. Attached are two forms: (1) the *UHCL Family and Medical Leave Request* and (2) the *Certification of Health Care Provider for Family Member's Serious Health Condition.* Please complete the UHCL Family and Medical Leave Request form and have the health care provider complete the Certification of Health Care Provider form. Both forms should be returned to the Office of Human Resources within 15 days or 30 days prior to the commencement of your leave. If you are unable to meet this deadline, please contact me.

After the documents have been reviewed, you will receive written notification regarding the outcome of your FMLA request. If you fail to return the forms as required, your absence may be ineligible for job and benefit protection under FMLA.

You are required to coordinate your absences and maintain regular communication with your immediate supervisor during the period of time you are on FML. Failure to maintain this communication could result in the cancellation of your remaining FMLA benefits.

Employee Rights & Responsibilities provides additional FMLA information and is attached for your review.

University of Houston Clear Lake
Human Resources

FMLA: Required Paperwork Instructions- Family Member

You will complete:

1. FMLA UHCL Request Form

Give the doctor:

1. Certification of Health Care Provider for Family Member Form
2. FMLA GINA Notice to Health Care Provider

The doctor will complete:

1. Certification of Health Care Provider for Family Member Form

You will return to me:

1. FMLA UHCL Request Form
2. Certification of Health Care Provider for Family Member Form

The two forms must be returned to the Office of Human Resources within 15 days from the date provided or 30 days prior to the commencement of your leave. If you are unable to meet this deadline, please contact us.

Forms can be returned to us via fax or scan/email. If you prefer, the forms can be dropped of in hard copy in HR B2537 or mail the forms.

Kristyn Dalmolin
Sr. Benefits Coordinator
DalmolinK@uhcl.edu
Phone: (281) 283-2169
Fax: (281) 226-7272

Office of Human Resources 2700
Bay Area Boulevard, Box 167
Houston, Texas 77058-1098

University of Houston Clear Lake
Human Resources

Family and Medical Leave Request Form

**To Be Completed By The Employee*

Employee Information

Name_____EMPLID_____

Home Address_____City_____State_____Zip_____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ (Work) _____

Personal Email (if you will not check work email while out)_____

Department: _____Supervisor's Name: _____Work Ext.: _____

Work Schedule_____

Leave Request Summary

1) Is the qualifying condition due to the serious health condition of the employee? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2) Is the qualifying condition due to birth or placement of a child with you for adoption or foster care? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please indicate: ☐ Birth ☐ Adoption ☐ Foster Care Anticipated birth or placement date: _____

3) Is the qualifying event due to Military Leave: ☐ Active Duty Leave ☐ Military Caregiver Leave? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Active Duty: Qualifying Exigency_____Relationship_____

Military Caregiver: Certification of health care provider: ☐ Yes ☐ No Certification for next of kin: ☐ Yes ☐ No

4) Is the qualifying condition due to a serious health condition of child, parent, or spouse of employee? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If leave requested is for the serious health condition of a dependent, please give the following information:

Name_____Relationship_____DOB(if child)_____

5) Is this a joint application with a spouse who is also a UHCL employee? ☐ Yes ☐ No

University of Houston Clear Lake
Human Resources

Family and Medical Leave Request Form

**To Be Completed By The Employee*

Dates of Leave

☐ Continuous full-time leave, beginning ____/____/____ and ending ____/____/___.

☐ Dates to be determined and as approved by supervisor.

☐ Intermittent leave:

1st period beginning ____/____/____ and ending ____/____/____.

2nd period beginning ____/____/____ and ending ____/____/____.

☐ Dates to be determined as needed and as approved by supervisor.

☐ Combination of continuous and intermittent leave needed.

☐ Reduced schedule leave, beginning ____/____/____ and ending ____/____/____.

FTE reduced to: _____

Employee Agreement

I understand and agree to the following provisions as applicable:

- I have at least 12 calendar months of service with the State of Texas prior to the date of leave; and I have worked at least 1,250 hours for the State of Texas immediately preceding my leave. If less that amount, I am eligible for Parental Leave for the birth or placement of a child.
- I must exhaust all sick and vacation accrued leave while taking FML/Parental Leave. Once my paid leave is exhausted, I will be placed on leave without pay.
- After 12 weeks or the amount of approved leave, if I do not return to work or contact my supervisor or manager on or before the date intended, it will be considered that I abandoned my job.
- I will report periodically during the leave (at least once per week) to my supervisor on my leave status and intention to return to work.
- I will receive the state credit for health insurance during Family and Medical or Parental Leave and will be billed for any additional insurance premiums due. Should I fail to pay the additional premiums, my health insurance coverage will be changed to employee only level and optional coverage will be canceled. Continuation of group insurance is subject to the conditions and policies of ERS relating to coverage while on leave without pay.
- I must provide a release to return to work from my physician following my leave. Should I fail to do so, my department may deny restoration of my employment.

Employee Signature_____Date_____

Certification of Health Care Provider for Family Member's Serious Health Condition under the Family and Medical Leave Act

U.S. Department of Labor
Wage Hour Division

WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.
RETURN TO THE PATIENT.

OMB Control Number: 1235-0003
Expires: 6/30/2023

The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides that an employer may require an employee seeking FMLA leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition to submit a medical certification issued by the family member's health care provider. 29 U.S.C. §§ 2613, 2614(c)(3); 29 C.F.R. § 825.305. The employer must give the employee **at least 15 calendar days** to provide the certification. If the employee fails to provide complete and sufficient medical certification, his or her FMLA leave request may be denied. 29 C.F.R. § 825.313. Information about the FMLA may be found on the WHD website at www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/fmla.

SECTION I - EMPLOYER

Either the employee or the employer may complete Section I. While use of this form is optional, this form asks the health care provider for the information necessary for a complete and sufficient medical certification, which is set out at 29 C.F.R. § 825.306. **You may not ask the employee to provide more information than allowed under the FMLA regulations, 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.306-825.308**. Additionally, you **may not** request a certification for FMLA leave to bond with a healthy newborn child or a child placed for adoption or foster care.

Employers must generally maintain records and documents relating to medical information, medical certifications, recertifications, or medical histories of employees or employees' family members created for FMLA purposes as confidential medical records in separate files/records from the usual personnel files and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1630.14(c)(1), if the Americans with Disabilities Act applies, and in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 1635.9, if the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act applies.

(1) Employee name: _____
First *Middle* *Last*

(2) Employer name: _____ Date: _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*
(List date certification requested)

(3) The medical certification must be returned by _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*
(Must allow at least 15 calendar days from the date requested, unless it is not feasible despite the employee's diligent, good faith efforts.)

SECTION II - EMPLOYEE

Please complete and sign Section II before providing this form to your family member or your family member's health care provider. The FMLA allows an employer to require that you submit a timely, complete, and sufficient medical certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to the serious health condition of your family member. If requested by your employer, your response is required to obtain or retain the benefit of the FMLA protections. 29 U.S.C. §§ 2613, 2614(c)(3). **You are responsible for making sure the medical certification is provided to your employer within the time frame requested, which must be at least 15 calendar days.** 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.305-825.306. Failure to provide a complete and sufficient medical certification may result in a denial of your FMLA leave request. 29 C.F.R. § 825.313.

(1) Name of the family member for whom you will provide care: _____

(2) Select the relationship of the family member to you. The family member is your:

☐ Spouse ☐ Parent ☐ Child, under age 18
☐ Child, age 18 or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability

Spouse means a husband or wife as defined or recognized in the state where the individual was married, including in a common law marriage or same-sex marriage. The terms "child" and "parent" include *in loco parentis* relationships in which a person assumes the obligations of a parent to a child. An employee may take FMLA leave to care for an individual who assumed the obligations of a parent to the employee when the employee was a child. An employee may also take FMLA leave to care for a child for whom the employee has assumed the obligations of a parent. No legal or biological relationship is necessary.

Employee Name: _____

(3) Briefly describe the care you will provide to your family member: (*Check all that apply)*

☐ Assistance with basic medical, hygienic, nutritional, or safety needs ☐ Transportation

☐ Physical Care ☐ Psychological Comfort ☐ Other: _____

(4) Give your **best estimate** of the amount of leave needed to provide the care described: _____

_____

(5) If a **reduced work schedule** is necessary to provide the care described, give your **best estimate** of the reduced schedule you are able to work. From _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)* to _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy),* I am able to work _____ (*hours per day*) _____ (*days per week).*

Employee Signature _____ **Date** _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

SECTION III - HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Please provide your contact information, complete all relevant parts of this Section, and sign the form below. A family member of your patient has requested leave under the FMLA to care for your patient. The FMLA allows an employer to require that the employee submit a timely, complete, and sufficient medical certification to support a request for FMLA leave to care for a family member with a serious health condition. For FMLA purposes, a "serious health condition" means an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or mental condition that *involves inpatient care* or *continuing treatment by a health care provider*. For more information about the definitions of a serious health condition under the FMLA, see the chart at the end of the form.

You also may, but are **not required** to, provide other appropriate medical facts including symptoms, diagnosis, or any regimen of continuing treatment such as the use of specialized equipment. Please note that some state or local laws may not allow disclosure of private medical information about the patient's serious health condition, such as providing the diagnosis and/or course of treatment.

Health Care Provider's name: *(Print)* _____

Health Care Provider's business address: _____

Type of practice / Medical specialty: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

PART A: Medical Information

Limit your response to the medical condition for which the employee is seeking FMLA leave. Your answers should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. **After completing Part A, complete Part B to provide information about the amount of leave needed.** Note: For FMLA purposes, "incapacity" means the inability to work, attend school, or perform regular daily activities due to the condition, treatment of the condition, or recovery from the condition. Do not provide information about genetic tests, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(f), genetic services, as defined in 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(e), or the manifestation of disease or disorder in the employee's family members, 29 C.F.R. § 1635.3(b).

(1) Patient's Name: _____

(2) State the approximate date the condition started or will start: _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

(3) Provide your **best estimate** of how long the condition lasted or will last: _____

(4) For FMLA to apply, care of the patient must be medically necessary. Briefly describe the type of care needed by the patient (*e.g., assistance with basic medical, hygienic, nutritional, safety, transportation needs, physical care, or psychological comfort).*

_____

_____

Employee Name: _____

(5) Check the box(es) for the questions below, as applicable. For all box(es) checked, the amount of leave needed must be provided in Part B.

- ☐ **Inpatient Care**: The patient (☐ has been / ☐ is expected to be) admitted for an overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility on the following date(s): _____

- ☐ **Incapacity plus Treatment**: *(e.g. outpatient surgery, strep throat)*
  Due to the condition, the patient (☐ has been / ☐ is expected to be) incapacitated for *more than* three consecutive, full calendar days from _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)* to _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*.

  The patient (☐ was / ☐ will be) seen on the following date(s): _____

  _____

  The condition (☐ has / ☐ has not) also resulted in a course of continuing treatment under the supervision of a health care provider *(e.g. prescription medication (other than over-the-counter) or therapy requiring special equipment)*

- ☐ **Pregnancy**: The condition is pregnancy. List the expected delivery date: _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*.

- ☐ **Chronic Conditions**: *(e.g. asthma, migraine headaches)* Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to have treatment visits at least twice per year.

- ☐ **Permanent or Long Term Conditions**: *(e.g. Alzheimer's, terminal stages of cancer)* Due to the condition, incapacity is permanent or long term and requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider (even if active treatment is not being provided).

- ☐ **Conditions requiring Multiple Treatments**: (*e.g. chemotherapy treatments, restorative surgery)* Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the patient to receive multiple treatments.

- ☐ **None of the above**: If none of the above condition(s) were checked, (i.e., inpatient care, pregnancy) no additional information is needed. Go to page 4 to sign and date the form.

(6) If needed, briefly describe other appropriate medical facts related to the condition(s) for which the employee seeks FMLA leave. *(e.g., use of nebulizer, dialysis)* _____

_____

PART B: Amount of Leave Needed

For the medical condition(s) checked in Part A, complete all that apply. Several questions seek a response as to the frequency or duration of a condition, treatment, etc. Your answer should be your **best estimate** based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. Be as specific as you can; terms such as "lifetime," "unknown," or "indeterminate" may not be sufficient to determine if the benefits and protections of the FMLA apply.

(7) Due to the condition, the patient (☐ had / ☐ will have) **planned medical treatment(s)** (scheduled medical visits) *(e.g. psychotherapy, prenatal appointments)* on the following date(s): _____

_____

(8) Due to the condition, the patient (☐ was / ☐ will be) **referred to other health care provider(s)** for evaluation or treatment(s).

State the nature of such treatments: *(e.g. cardiologist, physical therapy)* _____

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)* and end date _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)* for the treatment(s).

Provide your **best estimate** of the duration of the treatment(s), including any period(s) of recovery

_____ *(e.g. 3 days/week)*

Employee Name: _____

(9) Due to the condition, the patient (☐ was / ☐ will be) **incapacitated for a continuous period of time**, including any time for treatment(s) and/or recovery.

Provide your **best estimate** of the beginning date: _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)* and end date _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)* for the period of incapacity.

(10) Due to the condition it, (☐ was / ☐ is / ☐ will be) medically necessary for the employee to be absent from work to provide care for the patient on an **intermittent basis** (periodically), including for any episodes of incapacity i.e., episodic flare-ups. Provide your **best estimate** of how often (frequency) and how long (duration) the episodes of incapacity will likely last.

Over the next 6 months, episodes of incapacity are estimated to occur _____ times per (☐ day / ☐ week / ☐ month) and are likely to last approximately _____ (☐ hours / ☐ days) per episode.

Signature of
Health Care Provider _____ **Date** _____ *(mm/dd/yyyy)*

Definitions of a Serious Health Condition *(See 29 C.F.R. §§ 825.113-.115)*
Inpatient Care
• An overnight stay in a hospital, hospice, or residential medical care facility. • Inpatient care includes any period of incapacity or any subsequent treatment in connection with the overnight stay.
Continuing Treatment by a Health Care Provider (any one or more of the following)
Incapacity Plus Treatment: A period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days, and any subsequent treatment or period of incapacity relating to the same condition, that also involves either: o Two or more in-person visits to a health care provider for treatment within 30 days of the first day of incapacity unless extenuating circumstances exist. The first visit must be within seven days of the first day of incapacity; or, o At least one in-person visit to a health care provider for treatment within seven days of the first day of incapacity, which results in a regimen of continuing treatment under the supervision of the health care provider. For example, the health provider might prescribe a course of prescription medication or therapy requiring special equipment.
Pregnancy: Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care.
Chronic Conditions: Any period of incapacity due to or treatment for a chronic serious health condition, such as diabetes, asthma, migraine headaches. A chronic serious health condition is one which requires visits to a health care provider (or nurse supervised by the provider) at least twice a year and recurs over an extended period of time. A chronic condition may cause episodic rather than a continuing period of incapacity.
Permanent or Long-term Conditions: A period of incapacity which is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective, but which requires the continuing supervision of a health care provider, such as Alzheimer's disease or the terminal stages of cancer.
Conditions Requiring Multiple Treatments: Restorative surgery after an accident or other injury; or, a condition that would likely result in a period of incapacity of more than three consecutive, full calendar days if the patient did not receive the treatment.

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 15 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 Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORM TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. RETURN TO THE PATIENT.

University of Houston Clear Lake
Human Resources

Notice to Health Care Provider

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA)

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) prohibits employers and other entities covered by GINA Title II from requesting or requiring genetic information of an individual or family member of the individual, except as specifically allowed by this law. To comply with this law, we are asking that you not provide any genetic information when responding to this request for medical information. 'Genetic information,' as defined by GINA, includes an individual's family medical history, the results of an individual's or family member's genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual's family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual's family member or an embryo lawfully held by an individual or family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

The choice is clear.
2700 Bay Area Boulevard · Bayou Building 2537 · Houston, Texas 77058-1002
Office 281-283-2160 · Fax 281-282-2158 · humanresources@uhcl.edu

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 service-member 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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