



Leave of Absence Fact Sheet

When applying for a leave, please follow the steps below. Any questions may be directed to your Benefits Counselor in Human Resources at 309-438-8311 or hrbenefits@ilstu.edu.

Step 1: Review the papers in this packet. Submit all pages of the application materials to Human Resources at 101 Nelson Smith Building, via email at hrbenefits@ilstu.edu, or via fax at 309-438-7421. We request your application for leave at least 30 days prior to your leave begin date. If 30-days' notice is not feasible, then notification must be as soon as possible.

Step 2: Provide Human Resources with the required supporting documentation within 15 calendar days of your leave begin date or application submission date, whichever is later. If you anticipate a delay in providing this documentation, please contact your Benefits Counselor to discuss the situation. Documentation can be submitted to Human Resources at 101 Nelson Smith Building, via fax at 309-438-7421, or via email at hrbenefits@ilstu.edu. It is your responsibility to ensure Human Resources has received the required documentation.

Step 3: Advise your Benefits Counselor throughout your leave of any changes to your anticipated leave start or return to work date(s).

Step 4: Returning to Work

If you have been on a leave for your own serious health condition, you must provide a physician's release to Human Resources as soon as you receive it.

If your physician returns you to work with restrictions or on a part-time basis, the University may need up to five working days to determine if you will be able to perform your duties according to your job description. During this five-day period, you will remain on leave. You cannot return to work until the University agrees to accept the limitations.

If you are an individual with a disability and need a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or other state or federal law, you may request an accommodation by contacting the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access at 309-438-3383. More information is available at: <https://policy.illinoisstate.edu/conduct/1-3-1.shtml>

If you have been on a leave to care for a family member, you do not need to provide a physician's release to Human Resources. You do need to communicate your return to work date to your Benefits Counselor as soon as it is known.

Communication

Communication regarding your leave request will be sent via e-mail to your ilstu.edu account. It is your responsibility to ensure your email account remains active while on leave. Contact the Technology Support Center at 309-438-4357 for assistance.

Employee Rights and Responsibilities

Please refer to the reverse side of this notice to review the Employee Rights and Responsibilities related to FMLA protected leaves. More information may also be found on the Human Resources website. For any questions, please contact your Benefits Counselor by calling 309-438-8311. If you feel your rights have been denied, please forward your appeal to the AVP of Human Resources.

For full policy information, please see the University Policy website at policy.illinoisstate.edu and the Human Resources site at hr.illinoisstate.edu/benefits.

Notice of Rights and Responsibilities for FMLA Protected Leaves

FMLA Leave Entitlement

You have a right under the FMLA to take unpaid, job-protected FMLA leave in a 12-month period for certain family and medical reasons, including up to **12 weeks** of unpaid leave in a 12-month period for the birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care, for a leave related to your own or a family member's serious health condition, or for certain qualifying exigencies related to the deployment of a military member to covered active duty. You also have a right under the FMLA to take up to **26 weeks** of unpaid, job-protected FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for a covered servicemember with a serious injury or illness (*Military Caregiver Leave*).

The 12-month period for FMLA leave is calculated as a "rolling" 12-month period measured backward from the date of any FMLA leave usage. (*Each time an employee takes FMLA leave, the remaining leave is the balance of the 12 weeks not used during the 12 months immediately before the FMLA leave is to start*).

All FMLA leave must be used for the designated leave purpose.

Substitution of Paid Leave

You have a right under the FMLA to request that your accrued paid leave be substituted for your FMLA leave. This means that you can request that your accrued paid leave run concurrently with some or all of your unpaid FMLA leave, provided you meet any applicable requirements of our leave policy. Concurrent leave use means the absence will count against both the designated paid leave and unpaid FMLA leave at the same time. If you do not meet the requirements for taking paid leave, you remain entitled to take available unpaid FMLA leave in the applicable 12-month period. Even if you do not request it, the FMLA allows us to require you to use your available sick, vacation, or other paid leave during your FMLA absence.

*University policy requires you to use all of your available paid leave during your FMLA leave. Any paid leave taken for this reason will also be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use in the applicable 12-month period.

Maintain Health Benefits

Your health benefits must be maintained during any period of FMLA leave under the same conditions as if you continued to work. During any paid portion of FMLA leave, your share of any premiums will be paid by the method normally used during any paid leave. During any unpaid portion of FMLA leave, you must continue to make any normal contributions to the cost of the health insurance premiums by paying the State of Illinois directly. Failure to submit payment to the State of Illinois for premiums may result in cancellation of coverage.

You may be required to reimburse us for our share of health insurance premiums paid on your behalf during your FMLA leave if you do not return to work following unpaid FMLA leave for a reason other than: the continuation, recurrence, or onset of your or your family member's serious health condition which would entitle you to FMLA leave; or the continuation, recurrence, or onset of a covered servicemember's serious injury or illness which would entitle you to FMLA leave; or other circumstances beyond your control.

Other Employee Benefits

Upon your return from FMLA leave, your other employee benefits, such as pensions or life insurance, must be resumed in the same manner and at the same levels as provided when your FMLA leave began.

Return-to-Work Requirements

You must be reinstated to the same or an equivalent job with the same pay, benefits, and terms and conditions of employment on your return from FMLA-protected leave. An equivalent position is one that is virtually identical to your former position in terms of pay, benefits, and working conditions. At the end of your FMLA leave, all benefits must also be resumed in the same manner and at the same level provided when the leave began. You do not have return-to-work rights under the FMLA if you need leave beyond the amount of FMLA leave you have available to use.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Illinois State University

FMLA APPLICATION

Name: _____ University ID: _____

Address: _____ Contact Ph.: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Work Ph.: _____

Employee Type: ___ Administrative/Professional ___ Civil Service ___ Faculty Employment %: _____

Department: _____ Mail Code: _____ Supervisor: _____

Beginning Date for Leave: _____ Estimated Length of Leave: _____

Last Day Worked: _____ Normal Work Schedule (Days & Times): _____

Type of Leave: Continuous Intermittent Reduced Schedule Workers' Comp

Please initial the statement below.

____ Should my request for FMLA be denied due to ineligibility, I understand that I must complete the Request for Non FMLA Approved Medical Leave application in order for Human Resources to review my situation for a Non FMLA approved medical leave.

Basic Leave:

Please indicate the reason you are requesting leave:

____ Your own serious health condition.

**** Refer to the Parental Leave application packet for the birth of a child or placement of a child with you for adoption or foster care.

____ Required to care for your ___ spouse ___ parent due to his/her serious health condition.

Name of spouse or parent: _____

____ Required to care for your child.

Name of child: _____ Date of birth of child: _____

____ An absence consistent with the terms of the Victim Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA).

(* Medical Certification is NOT required. Please see your Benefits Counselor for assistance).

Military Family Leave:

Please indicate the reason you are requesting leave:

____ I have a qualifying exigency arising out of the fact that my _____ spouse _____ son or daughter _____ parent is on active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation to a foreign country as a member of the National Guard or Reserves **OR** is active duty or has been notified of an impending call to active duty as a member of the Regular Armed Forces and is deployed to a foreign country. Name of service member: _____

____ I am the ___ spouse ___ son or daughter ___ parent ___ next of kin of a covered service member with a serious injury or illness. Name of service member: _____

Please see reverse side (page 2)

Please sign your initials to certify that you have read and understand each section below.

___ In order to determine whether your absence qualifies as FMLA leave, requested documentation must be provided within 15 calendar days following the FMLA request date. If documentation is not received within the allowed time period, your leave could be denied.

___ I understand that I will be required to use my available payable benefits during my FMLA absence. This means that I will receive my paid leave and the leave will also be considered protected FMLA leave and counted against my FMLA leave entitlement.

___ I understand that while on leave I will be required to furnish Human Resources with periodic reports of my status and intent to return to work when requested.

___ I understand that when applying for a FMLA-protected leave, I am responsible for following my normal departmental call-in procedural requirements until notification of approval has been received. When an employee does not comply with the departmental call-in procedural requirements, FMLA-protected leave may be delayed or denied.

___ I understand that based on my leave status, I should not complete any University-related work during my leave of absence either on a voluntary basis or by request from my supervisor and/or department. University personnel, including my supervisor/chair, may correspond, communicate, and request information needed to complete work in my absence. If you have any concerns about any requests or communication, please contact your Benefits Counselor to discuss.

___ I understand that if I have been off work due to my own serious health condition and my physician returns me to work with no restrictions, I must submit a physician's release to Human Resources as soon as you receive it. I understand that I CANNOT return to work without a release from Human Resources.

___ I understand that if my physician returns me to work with restrictions or on a part-time basis, I must submit a physician's release to Human Resources as soon as I receive it. The University may need up to five working days to determine if you will be able to perform your duties according to your job description. During this five-day period, you will remain on leave. You CANNOT return to work with restrictions until the University agrees to accept the limitations and provides you with a release to return.

___ I understand that if I am returning to work from a continuous FMLA leave for caring for a family member, I must notify Human Resources of my impending return as soon as possible.

___ I understand that the University may need to call my doctor on my behalf for clarification of medical documentation.

___ Information and updates regarding my leave will be provided through your Illinois State University email account (xxxxxx@ilstu.edu). It is your responsibility to ensure that your email is active and remains active while on leave. If you require any assistance with your email notifications, please contact the Technology Support Center at 309-438-HELP (4357).

I certify that I have received and read the Leave Fact Sheet and Employee's Rights and Responsibilities. I have read and initialed each section above. I understand that I am required to provide appropriate documentation to substantiate my need for the above leave.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____



HUMAN RESOURCES

Illinois State University

REQUIREMENTS WHILE ON INTERMITTENT FMLA LEAVE

Please initial each of the following statements indicating that you have read, understand, and will comply with each of these requirements. If you have any questions about this form, it is your responsibility to contact your Benefits Counselor for clarification prior to signing and submitting this form. You may reach your Benefits Counselor at Human Resources by calling (309) 438-8311 (TDD/TTY 309-438-2269).

- Intermittent Leave starts with the date the application is completed or requested.
- Doctor's certification needs to be completed and returned within 15 days of the signed application or the leave could be denied.
- If additional information is needed from the doctor, it will be your responsibility to provide the information within the designated time period.
- If the Intermittent Leave is for scheduled absences, you must provide the dates and times of your scheduled absences to your department (and to Human Resources, if requested).
- Calling in consistent with your department call-in procedures is required. When calling in/reporting an unscheduled absence covered by your Intermittent FMLA Leave, you must clearly designate the absence as FMLA time to whomever you are required to report your absences.
- It is the responsibility of the employee to track and know their FMLA usage.
- Approved Intermittent FMLA Leave can only be used for the medical condition identified on the doctor's certification form.
- When the Intermittent FMLA medical condition prevents you from working more than 3 consecutive days, an application for Continuous FMLA Leave must be completed.
- Partial day absences will count toward the total Intermittent FMLA absence allowance.
- Intermittent Leave **does** expire. If the need for leave still exists after the expiration date, it is your responsibility to request an updated leave.
- FMLA time reported on your timesheet should be selected with the designation "FMLA" in the time reporting code drop down menu.
- Extended benefits (150 hours) are not payable while on an Intermittent Leave. Only sick, vacation, or comp time can be used for these absences.
- Employee is responsible for adhering to the frequency and duration of their intermittent leave approval. If frequency and/or duration needs to be changed during the approval period, please contact your Benefit Counselor.

Applicant signature: _____ Date: _____

Certification of Qualifying Exigency For Military Family Leave

Name: _____ University ID: _____

Name of covered military member on active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation:

Relationship of covered military member to you: _____

Period of covered military member's active duty: _____

A complete and sufficient certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to a qualifying exigency includes written documentation confirming a covered military member's active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation. Please check one of the following:

A copy of the covered military member's active duty orders is attached.

Other documentation from the military certifying that the covered military member is on active duty (or has been notified of an impending call to active duty) in support of a contingency operation is attached.

I have previously provided my employer with sufficient written documentation confirming the covered military member's active duty or call to active duty status in support of a contingency operation.

Describe the reason you are requesting FMLA leave due to a qualifying exigency (including the specific reason you are requesting leave):

A complete and sufficient certification to support a request for FMLA leave due to a qualifying exigency includes any available written documentation which supports the need for leave; such documentation may include a copy of a meeting announcement for informational briefings sponsored by the military, a document confirming an appointment with a counselor or school official, or a copy of a bill for services for the handling of legal or financial affairs.

Available written documentation supporting this request for leave is attached. Yes No None Available

Approximate date exigency commenced: _____

Probable duration of exigency: _____

Will you need to be absent from work for a single continuous period of time due to the qualifying exigency? No Yes

If so, estimate the beginning and ending dates for the period of absence:

Will you need to be absent from work periodically to address this qualifying exigency? ___ No ___ Yes

Estimate schedule of leave, including the dates of any scheduled meetings or appointments:

Estimate the frequency and duration of each appointment, meeting, or leave event, including any travel time (i.e., 1 deployment-related meeting every month lasting 4 hours):

Frequency: ___ times per ___ week(s) ___ month(s)

Duration: ___ hours ___ day(s) per event.

If leave is requested to meet with a third party (such as to arrange for childcare, to attend counseling, to attend meetings with school or childcare providers, to make financial or legal arrangements, to act as the covered military member's representative before a federal, state, or local agency for purposes of obtaining, arranging or appealing military service benefits, or to attend any event sponsored by the military or military service organizations), a complete and sufficient certification includes the name, address, and appropriate contact information of the individual or entity with whom you are meeting (i.e., either the telephone or fax number or email address of the individual or entity). This information may be used by your employer to verify that the information contained on this form is accurate.

Name of Individual: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ Fax: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Describe nature of meeting: _____

I certify that the information I provided above is true and correct.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

3/09