

New tool, webinar offered to explain FFCRA benefits and requirements

The DOL on June 23 announced the launch of an interactive [online tool](#) aimed at helping workers determine whether they qualify for paid sick leave or extended family and medical leave to cover time away from work for COVID-19-related reasons. Apparently, a similar employer tool will soon be available. The DOL will also hold a webinar on June 30 to discuss paid sick leave requirements, tax relief, and other coronavirus-related information critical for employers and business owners.

FFCRA leave. Under the [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#) (FFCRA), certain employers (with fewer than 500 employees) must provide employees with up to two weeks of paid sick leave if they are unable to work or telework due to a federal, state or local quarantine or stay-at-home order. Employees also are eligible if a healthcare provider has advised them to self-quarantine for reasons related to COVID-19 or are seeking diagnosis for coronavirus symptoms.

Paid sick leave may also be available to workers caring for someone who is subject to a quarantine order or self-quarantining based on a healthcare provider's advice, or caring for a child whose school, place of care, or child care provider is closed or unavailable due to the coronavirus. Up to 10 additional weeks of expanded family and medical leave is available for workers forced to miss work to care for their children because the pandemic has closed or made unavailable their school, place of care, or childcare provider.

New tool. The DOL's new tool guides workers through a series of questions to help them determine whether the FFCRA's paid leave provisions apply to their employer. If the provisions do apply, the tool then helps them learn whether they qualify for either paid sick leave or extended family and medical leave.

"This new tool makes it simple for workers to find out if they may be eligible for paid sick leave or extended family and medical leave under the critical protections of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act," Wage and Hour Division Administrator Cheryl Stanton said in a [release](#). "As America reopens, this leave provides a crucial lifeline for millions of workers who need time off to care for themselves or their families. We want to ensure that everyone who is eligible knows about these protections and how to use them."

Webinar. The DOL separately [announced](#) that on June 30, 2020, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., CDT, the Wage and Hour Division in Kansas City, Kansas, will join the IRS and the U.S. Small Business Administration to present a webinar reviewing paid sick leave requirements, tax relief, and other coronavirus-related information critical for employers and business owners.

Employers, business owners, and other stakeholders are encouraged to [join the webinar](#) and follow the screen prompts after joining. Interested participants may test their connection by trying [join a test meeting](#) prior to the meeting. Note that the Microsoft Edge browser will not connect to the meeting.