

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

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California Paid Family Leave and Disability Insurance benefits to Increase January 1

SACRAMENTO – Beginning January 1, 2018, weekly benefits for the state’s Paid Family Leave and Disability Insurance programs increase for workers to take time off to care for ill family members, bond with new children or miss work due to pregnancy, sickness or injury.

Both of the benefit programs are funded entirely by employees through their State Disability Insurance payroll deductions, and they are administered by the California Employment Development Department (EDD). In 2002, California became the first state in the nation to create a Paid Family Leave program.

“When workers need time off for their families or to recover their health, these programs can make it financially possible,” said EDD Director Patrick W. Henning. “With the increase in benefit amounts for Paid Family Leave and Disability Insurance, more California workers can afford to do so.”

Assembly Bill 908 (Gomez), signed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in 2016, will increase wage replacement benefits from the current 55 percent to either 60 or 70 percent depending on income. Workers can use EDD’s [online benefit calculator](#) to determine how much in either Paid Family Leave or Disability Insurance benefits they could receive if they meet eligibility requirements.

The new law also eliminates the one-week waiting period for Paid Family Leave claims.

Details about Paid Family Leave:

- Provides benefits to California workers who take time off to care for a seriously ill child, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse or registered domestic partner.
- Benefits are also available to new parents who take time off to bond with a child entering their family either by birth, adoption or foster care placement.
- Mothers transitioning from a Disability Insurance claim due to pregnancy or childbirth usually qualify for Paid Family Leave.
- Benefits are payable for up to six weeks within a 12-month period and this time does not have to be taken all at once.

(more)

- Starting January 1, 2018, weekly benefits will range from \$50 to \$1,216 depending on an individual's earnings.
- Visit <http://californiapaidfamilyleave.com> for more information.

Details about Disability Insurance:

- Provides benefits to California workers to help replace some of the earnings they lose when they are unable to work due to a non-work-related illness or injury, pregnancy or childbirth.
- Benefits are payable for a maximum of 52 weeks.
- Starting January 1, 2018, weekly benefits will range from \$50 to \$1,216 depending on an individual's earnings.
- Visit http://www.edd.ca.gov/Disability/Disability_Insurance.htm for more information.

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