California Paid Family Leave
moments matter.

What Is a Qualifying Event?

A qualifying event is any military event or an essential need resulting from the family member’s deployment. For PFL, the military event does not have to occur in California.

Examples of qualifying events:

- Arranging for childcare or parental care during the deployment.
- Assisting in making legal or financial arrangements during the deployment.
- Attending counseling.
- Assisting the military member during rest and recuperation leave.
- Attending military sponsored events or ceremonies.
- Representing the military member at federal, state, or local events.
- Addressing issues due to the military member’s death.
- Other activities that the employer and employee agree upon as a qualifying event, as well as time and duration of leave.

What Is Considered Deployment?

Deployment is defined as covered active duty, a call or notice of impending covered active duty, or a rest and recuperation leave from covered active duty.

Rest and recuperation leave can be done anywhere. Simply provide the orders for your military family member showing the rest and recuperation leave to qualify for benefits.

You can also visit a PFL or Disability Insurance office to obtain claim forms, receive information, or speak to a representative. Find a State Disability Insurance Office (edd.ca.gov/Disability/Contact SDI.htm) near you.

The EDD is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Requests for services, aids, and/or alternate formats need to be made by calling 1-866-490-8879 (voice). TTY users, please call the California Relay Service at 711.

English ................................................. 1-877-238-4373
Spanish ............................................. 1-877-379-3819
Cantonese .......................................... 1-866-692-5595
Vietnamese ........................................... 1-866-692-5596
Armenian ............................................. 1-866-627-1567
Punjabi .................................................. 1-866-627-1568
Tagalog .................................................. 1-866-627-1569
TTY ..................................................... 1-800-445-1312

California Paid Family Leave for Military Family Members

California Paid Family Leave (PFL) provides military families up to eight weeks of partial-wage-replacement benefits to participate in a qualifying event because a family member is deployed to a foreign country.
Who Is Eligible?
To be eligible for PFL benefit payments, you must:

- Need time off work to participate in a qualifying event because of a family member’s military deployment to a foreign country. A family member is a spouse, registered domestic partner, parent, or child.
- Have worked in California and paid into State Disability Insurance (SDI) (noted as “CASDI” on most paystubs) in the past 5 to 18 months.
- Not have taken the maximum 8 weeks of PFL in the past 12 months.

Citizenship and immigration status do not affect eligibility.

How Do I Apply?
You can apply for benefits by filling out the Claim for Paid Family Leave (PFL) Benefits (DE 2501F) form online or by mail:

To apply online, visit SDI Online (edd.ca.gov/SDI_Online).

To apply by mail:

- Order the paper DE 2501F from Online Forms and Publications (edd.ca.gov/forms).
- Request a paper claim by calling 1-877-238-4373.
- Pick up a paper claim by visiting Contact State Disability Insurance (edd.ca.gov/Disability/Contact_SDI.htm) for a list of office locations near you.

As part of your application, you must provide:

- Part A - Statement of Claimant of the paper PFL claim form.
- Name of employer.
- Date you want your claim to begin. This is the first day of family leave.
- Wage paid (if any) and last day of work.
- Part E - Military Assist Certification (of the paper PFL claim form).
- Supporting military documentation such as proof of covered active duty or call to covered active duty and documentation that supports the qualifying event.

What Are My PFL Benefits?
You can receive 60 to 70 percent of your weekly salary from PFL. Your employer may allow you to use vacation, sick, paid time off, or other leave in addition to PFL benefits to receive up to 100 percent pay. Estimate your weekly benefit amount using the Disability Insurance and Paid Family Leave Calculator (edd.ca.gov/PFL_Calculator).

PFL can be taken all at once or can be split over a 12-month period.

Learn more by visiting Paid Family Leave for Military Family Members (edd.ca.gov/disability/paid-family-leave/Military-Family-Members.htm).