Washington's Paid Family and Medical Leave program is here.

Let's all get ready to be there for care.

In January 2019, Washington employees and many employers began investing in a statewide program to provide paid leave to give or receive care. The benefit began in 2020.

Paid Family and Medical Leave supports Washingtonians, whether they are recovering from a serious illness or injury, caring for a new child or helping an aging parent. It means workers won't have to choose between a paycheck and caring for their health and their family.

What it is:

The program is mandatory because the spirit behind this benefit is one of understanding that at some time we all need—or need to give—extra care and attention.

Who's eligible:

Nearly every Washington employee who works at least 820 hours (approximately 16 hours weekly) qualifies for the program. All paid work counts toward the 820 hours, including part-time, seasonal and temporary work. To learn more, visit paidleave.wa.gov.

Benefit details (2025):

- Allows up to 12 weeks of paid leave, or up to 18 weeks in certain circumstances.
- Workers receive between \$100 and \$1,542 per week, depending on income.

Your contribution (2025):

You may have seen a premium set aside from your paycheck, like you see for Medicare. The total premium is **0.92%** of your wages and may be shared between an employee and employer.

Visit **paidleave.wa.gov** to calculate your contribution and learn more about how you can take time for care.

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