

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

## FOR WORKERS WITH DISABILITIES PAID AT SUBMINIMUM WAGES

This establishment has a certificate authorizing the payment of subminimum wages to workers who are disabled for the work they are performing. Authority to pay subminimum wages to workers with disabilities generally applies to work covered by the **Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)**, **McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act (SCA)**, and/or **Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act (PCA)**. Such subminimum wages are referred to as "commensurate wage rates" and are less than the basic hourly rates stated in an SCA wage determination and/or less than the FLSA minimum wage of **\$7.25 per hour**. A "commensurate wage rate" is based on the worker's individual productivity, no matter how limited, in proportion to the wage and productivity of experienced workers who do not have disabilities that impact their productivity when performing essentially the same type, quality, and quantity of work in the geographic area from which the labor force of the community is drawn.

*Employers shall make this poster available and display it where employees and the parents and guardians of workers with disabilities can readily see it.*

### WORKERS WITH DISABILITIES

Subminimum wages under section 14(c) are not applicable unless a worker's disability actually impairs the worker's earning or productive capacity for the work being performed. The fact that a worker may have a disability is not in and of itself sufficient to warrant the payment of a subminimum wage.

For purposes of payment of commensurate wage rates under a certificate, a worker with a disability is defined as: An individual whose earnings or productive capacity is impaired by a physical or mental disability, including those related to age or injury, for the work to be performed.

Disabilities which may affect productive capacity include an intellectual or developmental disability, psychiatric disability, a hearing or visual impairment, and certain other impairments. The following do not ordinarily affect productive capacity for purposes of paying commensurate wage rates: educational disabilities; chronic unemployment; receipt of welfare benefits; nonattendance at school; juvenile delinquency; and correctional parole or probation.

### WORKER NOTIFICATION

Each worker with a disability and, where appropriate, the parent or guardian of such worker, shall be informed orally and in writing by the employer of the terms of the certificate under which such worker is employed.

### KEY ELEMENTS OF COMMENSURATE WAGE RATES

- **Nondisabled worker standard**—The objective gauge (usually a time study of the production of workers who do not have disabilities that impair their productivity for the job) against which the productivity of a worker with a disability is measured.
- **Prevailing wage rate**—The wage paid to experienced workers who do not have disabilities that impair their productivity for the same or similar work and who are performing such work in the area. Most SCA contracts include a wage determination specifying the prevailing wage rates to be paid for SCA-covered work.
- **Evaluation of the productivity of the worker with a disability**—Documented measurement of the production of the worker with a disability (in terms of quantity and quality).

The wages of all workers paid commensurate wages must be reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at periodic intervals. At a minimum, the productivity of hourly-paid workers must be reevaluated at least every six months and a new prevailing wage survey must be conducted at least once every twelve months. In addition, prevailing wages must be reviewed, and adjusted as appropriate, whenever there is a change in the job or a change in the prevailing wage rate, such as when the applicable state or federal minimum wage is increased.

### WIOA

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) amended the Rehabilitation Act by adding section 511, which places limitations on the payment of subminimum wages to individuals with disabilities by mandating the completion of certain requirements prior to and during the payment of a subminimum wage.

### EXECUTIVE ORDER 13658

Executive Order 13658, Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors, established a minimum wage that generally must be paid to workers performing on or in connection with a covered contract with the Federal Government. Workers covered by this Executive Order and due the full Executive Order minimum wage include workers with disabilities whose wages are calculated pursuant to certificates issued under section 14(c) of the FLSA.

### FRINGE BENEFITS

Neither the FLSA nor the PCA have provisions requiring vacation, holiday, or sick pay nor other fringe benefits such as health insurance or pension plans. SCA wage determinations may require such fringe benefit payments (or a cash equivalent). Workers paid under a certificate authorizing commensurate wage rates must receive the full fringe benefits listed on the SCA wage determination.

### OVERTIME

Generally, if a worker is performing work subject to the FLSA, SCA, and/or PCA, that worker must be paid at least 1 1/2 times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

### CHILD LABOR

Minors younger than 18 years of age must be employed in accordance with the child labor provisions of the FLSA. No persons under 16 years of age may be employed in manufacturing or on a PCA contract.

### PETITION PROCESS

Workers with disabilities paid at subminimum wages may petition the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor for a review of their wage rates by an Administrative Law Judge. No particular form of petition is required, except that it must be signed by the worker with a disability or his or her parent or guardian and should contain the name and address of the employer. Petitions should be mailed to: Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S-3502, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.



WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

1-866-487-9243  
TTY: 1-877-889-5627  
[www.dol.gov/whd](http://www.dol.gov/whd)



# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

## UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

### FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

# \$7.25

 PER HOUR

BEGINNING JULY 24, 2009

The law requires employers to display this poster where employees can readily see it.

**OVERTIME PAY** At least 1½ times the regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

**CHILD LABOR** An employee must be at least 16 years old to work in most non-farm jobs and at least 18 to work in non-farm jobs declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor. Youths 14 and 15 years old may work outside school hours in various non-manufacturing, non-mining, non-hazardous jobs with certain work hours restrictions. Different rules apply in agricultural employment.

**TIP CREDIT** Employers of “tipped employees” who meet certain conditions may claim a partial wage credit based on tips received by their employees. Employers must pay tipped employees a cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour if they claim a tip credit against their minimum wage obligation. If an employee’s tips combined with the employer’s cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour do not equal the minimum hourly wage, the employer must make up the difference.

**NURSING MOTHERS** The FLSA requires employers to provide reasonable break time for a nursing mother employee who is subject to the FLSA’s overtime requirements in order for the employee to express breast milk for her nursing child for one year after the child’s birth each time such employee has a need to express breast milk. Employers are also required to provide a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by the employee to express breast milk.

**ENFORCEMENT** The Department has authority to recover back wages and an equal amount in liquidated damages in instances of minimum wage, overtime, and other violations. The Department may litigate and/or recommend criminal prosecution. Employers may be assessed civil money penalties for each willful or repeated violation of the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions of the law. Civil money penalties may also be assessed for violations of the FLSA’s child labor provisions. Heightened civil money penalties may be assessed for each child labor violation that results in the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and such assessments may be doubled when the violations are determined to be willful or repeated. The law also prohibits retaliating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceeding under the FLSA.

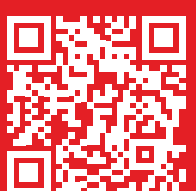
**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Certain occupations and establishments are exempt from the minimum wage, and/or overtime pay provisions.
- Special provisions apply to workers in American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.
- Some employers incorrectly classify workers as “independent contractors” when they are actually employees under the FLSA. It is important to know the difference between the two because employees (unless exempt) are entitled to the FLSA’s minimum wage and overtime pay protections and correctly classified independent contractors are not.
- Certain full-time students, student learners, apprentices, and workers with disabilities may be paid less than the minimum wage under special certificates issued by the Department of Labor.



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# Attention Miscellaneous Industry Employees

Minimum Wage hourly rates effective 12/31/2022 – 12/30/2023

New York City	
Large Employers (11 or more employees)	Small Employers (10 or less employees)
<b>Minimum Wage \$15.00</b>	<b>Minimum Wage \$15.00</b>
Overtime after 40 hours \$22.50	Overtime after 40 hours \$22.50
<b>Tipped workers \$15.00</b>	<b>Tipped workers \$15.00</b>
Overtime after 40 hours \$22.50	Overtime after 40 hours \$22.50

Long Island and Westchester County	
<b>Minimum Wage \$15.00</b>	
Overtime after 40 hours \$22.50	
<b>Tipped workers \$15.00</b>	
Overtime after 40 hours \$22.50	

Remainder of New York State	
<b>Minimum Wage \$14.20</b>	
Overtime after 40 hours \$21.30	
<b>Tipped workers \$14.20</b>	
Overtime after 40 hours \$21.30	

If you have questions, need more information or want to file a complaint, please visit [www.labor.ny.gov/minimumwage](http://www.labor.ny.gov/minimumwage) or call: **1-888-469-7365**.

**Credits and Allowances** that may reduce your pay below the minimum wage rates shown above:

- **Tips** – Beginning December 31, 2020, your employer must pay the full applicable minimum wage rate, and cannot take any tip credit.
- **Meals and lodging** – Your employer may claim a limited amount of your wages for meals and lodging that they provide to you, as long as they do not charge you anything else. The rates and requirements are set forth in wage orders and summaries, which are available online.

**Extra Pay** you may be owed in addition to the minimum wage rates shown above:

- **Overtime** – You must be paid 1½ times your regular rate of pay (no less than amounts shown above) for weekly hours over 40 (or 44 for residential employees).  
*Exceptions:* Overtime is not required for salaried professionals, or for executives and administrative staff whose weekly salary is more than 75 times the minimum wage rate.
- **Call-in pay** – If you go to work as scheduled and your employer sends you home early, you may be entitled to extra hours of pay at the minimum wage rate for that day.
- **Spread of hours** – If your workday lasts longer than ten hours, you may be entitled to extra daily pay. The daily rate is equal to one hour of pay at the minimum wage rate.
- **Uniform maintenance** – If you clean your own uniform, you may be entitled to additional weekly pay. The weekly rates are available online.

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

## EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION ACT

The Employee Polygraph Protection Act prohibits most private employers from using lie detector tests either for pre-employment screening or during the course of employment.

### PROHIBITIONS

Employers are generally prohibited from requiring or requesting any employee or job applicant to take a lie detector test, and from discharging, disciplining, or discriminating against an employee or prospective employee for refusing to take a test or for exercising other rights under the Act.

### EXEMPTIONS

Federal, State and local governments are not affected by the law. Also, the law does not apply to tests given by the Federal Government to certain private individuals engaged in national security-related activities.

The Act permits polygraph (a kind of lie detector) tests to be administered in the private sector, subject to restrictions, to certain prospective employees of security service firms (armored car, alarm, and guard), and of pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors and dispensers.

The Act also permits polygraph testing, subject to restrictions, of certain employees of private firms who are reasonably suspected of involvement in a workplace incident (theft, embezzlement, etc.) that resulted in economic loss to the employer.

The law does not preempt any provision of any State or local law or any collective bargaining agreement which is more restrictive with respect to lie detector tests.

### EXAMINEE RIGHTS

Where polygraph tests are permitted, they are subject to numerous strict standards concerning the conduct and length of the test. Examinees have a number of specific rights, including the right to a written notice before testing, the right to refuse or discontinue a test, and the right not to have test results disclosed to unauthorized persons.

### ENFORCEMENT

The Secretary of Labor may bring court actions to restrain violations and assess civil penalties against violators. Employees or job applicants may also bring their own court actions.

**THE LAW REQUIRES EMPLOYERS TO DISPLAY THIS POSTER WHERE EMPLOYEES AND JOB APPLICANTS CAN READILY SEE IT.**



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# Know Your Rights: Workplace Discrimination is Illegal

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces Federal laws that protect you from discrimination in employment. If you believe you've been discriminated against at work or in applying for a job, the EEOC may be able to help.

## Who is Protected?

- Employees (current and former), including managers and temporary employees
- Job applicants
- Union members and applicants for membership in a union

## What Organizations are Covered?

- Most private employers
- State and local governments (as employers)
- Educational institutions (as employers)
- Unions
- Staffing agencies

## What Types of Employment Discrimination are Illegal?

Under the EEOC's laws, an employer may not discriminate against you, regardless of your immigration status, on the bases of:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- National origin
- Sex (including pregnancy and related conditions, sexual orientation, or gender identity)
- Age (40 and older)
- Disability
- Genetic information (including employer requests for, or purchase, use, or disclosure of genetic tests, genetic services, or family medical history)
- Retaliation for filing a charge, reasonably opposing discrimination, or participating in a discrimination lawsuit, investigation, or proceeding.

## What Employment Practices can be Challenged as Discriminatory?

All aspects of employment, including:

- Discharge, firing, or lay-off
- Harassment (including unwelcome verbal or physical conduct)
- Hiring or promotion
- Assignment
- Pay (unequal wages or compensation)
- Failure to provide reasonable accommodation for a disability or a sincerely-held religious belief, observance or practice
- Benefits
- Job training
- Classification
- Referral
- Obtaining or disclosing genetic information of employees
- Requesting or disclosing medical information of employees
- Conduct that might reasonably discourage someone from opposing discrimination, filing a charge, or participating in an investigation or proceeding.

## What can You Do if You Believe Discrimination has Occurred?

Contact the EEOC promptly if you suspect discrimination. Do not delay, because there are strict time limits for filing a charge of discrimination (180 or 300 days, depending on where you live/work). You can reach the EEOC in any of the following ways:

**Submit** an inquiry through the EEOC's public portal:  
<https://publicportal.eeoc.gov/Portal/Login.aspx>

**Call** 1-800-669-4000 (toll free)  
1-800-669-6820 (TTY)  
1-844-234-5122 (ASL video phone)

**Visit** an EEOC field office (information at [www.eeoc.gov/field-office](http://www.eeoc.gov/field-office))

**E-Mail** [info@eeoc.gov](mailto:info@eeoc.gov)

Additional information about the EEOC, including information about filing a charge of discrimination, is available at [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov).



## EMPLOYERS HOLDING FEDERAL CONTRACTS OR SUBCONTRACTS

The Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) enforces the nondiscrimination and affirmative action commitments of companies doing business with the Federal Government. If you are applying for a job with, or are an employee of, a company with a Federal contract or subcontract, you are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

### Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, National Origin

Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination by Federal contractors based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin, and requires affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment.

### Asking About, Disclosing, or Discussing Pay

Executive Order 11246, as amended, protects applicants and employees of Federal contractors from discrimination based on inquiring about, disclosing, or discussing their compensation or the compensation of other applicants or employees.

### Disability

Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, protects qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment by Federal contractors. Disability discrimination includes not making reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee, barring undue hardship to the employer. Section 503 also requires that Federal contractors take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities at all levels of employment, including the executive level.

### Protected Veteran Status

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. 4212, prohibits employment discrimination against, and requires affirmative action to recruit, employ, and advance in employment, disabled veterans, recently separated veterans (i.e., within three years of discharge or release from active duty), active duty wartime or campaign badge veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans.

### Retaliation

Retaliation is prohibited against a person who files a complaint of discrimination, participates in an OFCCP proceeding, or otherwise opposes discrimination by Federal contractors under these Federal laws.

Any person who believes a contractor has violated its nondiscrimination or affirmative action obligations under OFCCP's authorities should contact immediately:

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP)  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20210  
1-800-397-6251 (toll-free)

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services. OFCCP may also be contacted by submitting a question online to OFCCP's Help Desk at <https://ofccphelpdesk.dol.gov/s/>, or by calling an OFCCP regional or district office, listed in most telephone directories under U.S. Government, Department of Labor and on OFCCP's "Contact Us" webpage at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ofccp/contact>.

## PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES RECEIVING FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### Race, Color, National Origin, Sex

In addition to the protections of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination is covered by Title VI if the primary objective of the financial assistance is provision of employment, or where employment discrimination causes or may cause discrimination in providing services under such programs. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities which receive Federal financial assistance.

### Individuals with Disabilities

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity which receives Federal financial assistance. Discrimination is prohibited in all aspects of employment against persons with disabilities who, with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in a program of any institution which receives Federal financial assistance, you should immediately contact the Federal agency providing such assistance.



NEW YORK STATE  
DIVISION OF  
**HUMAN  
RIGHTS**  
WWW.DHR.NY.GOV  
ANDREW M. CUOMO, GOVERNOR

**DISCRIMINATION REALLY HURTS.**  
**IF YOU SEE IT OR EXPERIENCE IT, CALL US.**  
**WE'RE HERE.**  
**(718) 741-8400 (888) 392-3644**  
**TTD (718)741-8300**

THIS ESTABLISHMENT IS SUBJECT TO THE NEW YORK STATE HUMAN RIGHTS LAW (EXECUTIVE LAW, ARTICLE 15)

ESTE ESTABLECIMIENTO ESTÁ SUJETO A LA LEY DE DERECHOS HUMANOS DEL ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK (LEY EJECUTIVA, ARTÍCULO 15)

**DISCRIMINATION BASED ON AGE, RACE, CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MILITARY STATUS, SEX, DISABILITY, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM STATUS, OR MARITAL STATUS IS PROHIBITED BY THE NEW YORK STATE HUMAN RIGHTS LAW IN:**

**LA DISCRIMINACIÓN BASADA EN EDAD, RAZA, CREDO, COLOR, NACIONALIDAD, ORIENTACIÓN SEXUAL, ESTADO MILITAR, SEXO, DISCAPACIDAD, ESTADO COMO VÍCTIMA DE VIOLENCIA DOMÉSTICA, O ESTADO CIVIL ESTÁ PROHIBIDA BAJO LA LEY DE DERECHOS HUMANOS DEL ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK EN:**

**EMPLOYMENT, BY EMPLOYERS OF FOUR OR MORE PEOPLE, EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES, LABOR ORGANIZATIONS AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAMS**

Also prohibited: discrimination in employment on the basis of Sabbath observance or religious practices; prior arrest or conviction record; predisposing genetic characteristics.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities may be required. A reasonable accommodation is an adjustment to a job or work environment that enables a person with a disability to perform the essential functions of a job in a reasonable manner.

**RENTAL, LEASE OR SALE OF HOUSING, LAND AND COMMERCIAL SPACE**

Exceptions:

- (1) rental of an apartment in an owner-occupied two-family house
- (2) restrictions of all rooms in a housing accommodation to individuals of the same sex
- (3) rental of a room by the occupant of a house or apartment
- (4) sale, rental, or lease of accommodations of housing exclusively to persons 55 years of age or older, and the spouse of such persons

Also prohibited: discrimination in housing on the basis of familial status (e.g. families with children)

Reasonable accommodations and modifications for persons with disabilities may also be required.

**ACTIVITIES OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALES PEOPLE**

Also prohibited: commercial boycotts and blockbusting.

**PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION, RESORT OR AMUSEMENT SUCH AS RESTAURANTS, HOTELS, HOSPITALS, CLUBS AND MEDICAL OFFICES**

Exception:

Age is not a covered classification relative to public accommodations. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities may also be required. (Effective January 1st, 2008.)

**ADVERTISING AND APPLICATIONS RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT, REAL ESTATE, PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION AND CREDIT TRANSACTIONS**

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS: NON-SECTARIAN, TAX EXEMPT, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE**

**ALL CREDIT TRANSACTIONS INCLUDING FINANCING FOR PURCHASE, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF HOUSING**

If you wish to file a formal complaint with the Division of Human Rights, you must do so within one year after the discrimination occurred. The Division's services are provided free of charge.

If you wish to file a complaint in State Court, you may do so within three years of the discrimination. You may not file both with the Division and the State Court.

**Retaliation for filing a complaint or opposing discriminatory practices is prohibited. You may file a complaint with the Division if you have been retaliated against.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, WRITE OR CALL THE DIVISION'S NEAREST OFFICE.  
HEADQUARTERS: ONE FORDHAM PLAZA, 4TH FLOOR, BRONX, NY 10458

**EL EMPLEO, POR PARTE DE EMPLEADORES CON UN PERSONAL DE CUATRO PERSONAS O MÁS, EN SINDICATOS Y PROGRAMAS DE ADIESTRAMIENTO Y CAPACITACIÓN**

También se prohíbe: La discriminación en el empleo basado en la observación del Sabat y otras prácticas religiosas, por previos arrestos o antecedentes criminales, por predisposición genética.

En casos de personas con discapacidades físicas se puede exigir que se le proporcionen ajustes necesarios y razonables. Un ajuste razonable es una modificación en el lugar o ambiente de trabajo que permita que una persona con discapacidades pueda desempeñar sus funciones de forma razonable.

**ALQUILER, CONTRATO DE ALQUILER, VENTA DE VIVIENDAS, TIERRAS O ESPACIOS COMERCIALES**

Excepciones:

- (1) el alquiler de un apartamento en una casa para dos familias en la que reside el propietario
- (2) la restricción de todas las habitaciones de una propiedad residencial para alojamiento de individuos del mismo sexo
- (3) el alquiler de una habitación por el ocupante de una casa o apartamento
- (4) la venta, alquiler, contrato de alquiler en viviendas para alojamiento exclusivo de personas de 55 años o más y sus respectivos esposos o esposas

También está prohibido: la discriminación en viviendas basada en la situación familiar (ejemplo: familias con niños)

También se puede exigir que se hagan ajustes razonables y modificaciones para las personas con discapacidades.

**ACTIVIDADES DE AGENTES Y VENDEDORES DE BIENES RAÍCES**

Está prohibido: los boicots comerciales y la práctica de vender o alquilar viviendas a grupos étnicos minoritarios en barrios habitados predominantemente por blancos, con el propósito de depreciar las propiedades y hacer especulaciones. A ésta práctica se le conoce en inglés como blockbusting.

**SITIOS PÚBLICOS, LUGARES PARA VACACIONAR O DE ENTRETENIMIENTO COMO RESTAURANTES, HOTELES, HOSPITALES, CLUBES Y CONSULTORIOS MÉDICOS**

Excepción:

La edad no es una de las categorías protegidas con respecto a los sitios públicos. Ajustes razonables para las personas con discapacidades también pueden ser requeridos. (Efectivo el 1ero de enero del 2008.)

**PUBLICIDAD Y SOLICITUDES RELACIONADAS A EMPLEOS, BIENES RAÍCES, SITIOS PÚBLICOS Y OPERACIONES DE CRÉDITO**

**INSTITUCIONES EDUCATIVAS: QUE NO SEAN RELIGIOSAS, LIBRES DE IMPUESTOS, PÚBLICAS Y PRIVADAS**

**TODAS LAS OPERACIONES DE CRÉDITO INCLUYENDO FINANCIAMIENTO DE COMPRA, MANTENIMIENTO O REPARACIONES DE VIVIENDAS**

Si desea presentar una querrela con la División de Derechos Humanos, debe hacerlo dentro de un plazo de un año después que el acto discriminatorio haya ocurrido. Los servicios que ofrece la División son gratuitos.

Si desea presentar una querrela ante la Corte Estatual tiene un plazo de hasta tres años después del incidente discriminatorio para hacerlo. No puede presentar su queja en ambos lugares, la División y la Corte Estatual.

**Está prohibido tomar represalias contra una persona porque haya presentado una querrela o por oponerse a conductas discriminatorias. Usted puede presentar una querrela ante la División si han tomado represalias en su contra.**

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN, ESCRIBA O LLAME A SU OFICINA DE LA DIVISIÓN MÁS CERCANA.  
SEDE: ONE FORDHAM PLAZA, 4TH FLOOR, BRONX, NY 10458

**LA DISCRIMINACIÓN REALMENTE HACE DAÑO.**  
**SI ES TESTIGO O VÍCTIMA DE ELLA, LLÁMENOS.**  
**ESTAMOS AQUÍ PARA SERVIRLES.**  
**(718) 741-8400 (888) 392-3644**  
**TTD (718)741-8300**



ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK  
DIVISIÓN DE  
**DERECHOS  
HUMANOS**  
WWW.DHR.NY.GOV

GOBERNADOR ANDREW M. CUOMO

# STOP SEXUAL HARASSMENT ACT NOTICE

## Sexual Harassment Prevention Notice



Combating Sexual Harassment

### The NYS Human Rights Law

The NY Human Rights Law, one of the strongest anti-discrimination laws in the nation, protects all individuals against discrimination based on gender, which includes sexual harassment in the workplace, in housing, and in public accommodations like stores and restaurants. Violators can be held accountable with civil penalties of up to \$250,000 in the case of a willful violation. The Commission can also assess emotional distress damages and other remedies to the victim, require the violator to undergo training, and mandate other remedies such as community service.

### Sexual Harassment Under the Law

Sexual harassment, a form of gender-based discrimination, is unwelcome verbal or physical behavior based on a person's gender.

### Examples of Sexual Harassment

- unwelcome or inappropriate touching of employees or customers
- threatening or engaging in adverse action after someone refuses a sexual advance
- making lewd or sexual comments about an individual's appearance, body, or style of dress
- conditioning promotions or other opportunities on sexual favors
- displaying pornographic images, cartoons, or graffiti on computers, emails, cell phones, bulletin boards, etc.
- making sexist remarks or derogatory comments based on gender

### Retaliation Is Prohibited Under the Law

It is a violation of the law for an employer to take action against you because you oppose or speak

out against sexual harassment in the workplace. The NYS Human Rights Law prohibits employers from retaliating or discriminating "in any manner against any person" because that person opposed an unlawful discriminatory practice. Retaliation can manifest through direct actions, such as demotions or terminations, or more subtle behavior, such as an increased work load or being transferred to a less desirable location. The NYS Human Rights Law protects individuals against retaliation who have a good faith belief that their employer's conduct is illegal, even if it turns out that they were mistaken.

### Report Sexual Harassment

If you have witnessed or experienced sexual harassment inform a manager, the equal employment opportunity officer at your workplace, or human resources as soon as possible.

#### Report sexual harassment to Human Resources.

Learn how to file a complaint or report discrimination. You can file a complaint anonymously.

### State and Federal Government Resources

Sexual harassment is also unlawful under state and federal law, where statutes of limitations vary.

To file a complaint with the New York State Division of Human Rights, please visit the Division's website at [www.dhr.ny.gov](http://www.dhr.ny.gov).

To file a charge with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), please visit the EEOC's website at [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov).



Commission on Human Rights





U.S. Department of Labor



# Job Safety and Health IT'S THE LAW!

## All workers have the right to:

- A safe workplace.
- Raise a safety or health concern with your employer or OSHA, or report a work-related injury or illness, without being retaliated against.
- Receive information and training on job hazards, including all hazardous substances in your workplace.
- Request a confidential OSHA inspection of your workplace if you believe there are unsafe or unhealthy conditions. You have the right to have a representative contact OSHA on your behalf.
- Participate (or have your representative participate) in an OSHA inspection and speak in private to the inspector.
- File a complaint with OSHA within 30 days (by phone, online or by mail) if you have been retaliated against for using your rights.
- See any OSHA citations issued to your employer.
- Request copies of your medical records, tests that measure hazards in the workplace, and the workplace injury and illness log.

*This poster is available free from OSHA.*

**Contact OSHA. We can help.**

## Employers must:

- Provide employees a workplace free from recognized hazards. It is illegal to retaliate against an employee for using any of their rights under the law, including raising a health and safety concern with you or with OSHA, or reporting a work-related injury or illness.
- Comply with all applicable OSHA standards.
- Notify OSHA within 8 hours of a workplace fatality or within 24 hours of any work-related inpatient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye.
- Provide required training to all workers in a language and vocabulary they can understand.
- Prominently display this poster in the workplace.
- Post OSHA citations at or near the place of the alleged violations.

On-Site Consultation services are available to small and medium-sized employers, without citation or penalty, through OSHA-supported consultation programs in every state.





**WORKERS'  
COMPENSATION  
INSURANCE  
FRAUD  
IS A FELONY**

**TO REPORT  
WORKERS'  
COMPENSATION  
FRAUD**

**CALL THE NEW YORK  
STATE FRAUD  
INSPECTOR GENERAL  
HOTLINE**

**888.363.6001**

**SEEK RESTITUTION...**

We will seek financial restitution  
and criminal prosecution

**AGGRESSIVELY PURSUE...**

We will aggressively pursue all  
indicators of fraud and fraudulent or  
suspicious activity

Wright Risk Management 900 Stewart Avenue, Suite 600  
Garden City, NY 11530-4869

Phone: 516.227.2300 | Fax: 516.227.2352 | [www.wrightrisk.com](http://www.wrightrisk.com)



**WRIGHT**<sup>™</sup>  
Risk Management

## NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYER REGISTRATION NUMBER

1-78 ER# 04-63113 8

WANTAGH UNION FREE  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
3301 BELTAGH AVE  
WANTAGH NY 11793

**EMPLOYEES OF THIS FIRM ARE COVERED BY THE NEW YORK STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE LAW.**

NO DEDUCTIONS FROM WAGES MAY BE MADE FOR THIS PURPOSE.

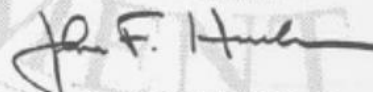
**IF YOU ARE LAID OFF, WORK LESS THAN FOUR DAYS A WEEK, OR RESIGN, GET A "RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT" FORM FROM YOUR EMPLOYER. KEEP THIS FORM.**

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT FORMS REQUIRED BY REGULATION WILL CONTAIN YOUR EMPLOYER'S NAME, REGISTRATION NUMBER AND ADDRESS WHERE PAYROLL RECORDS ARE KEPT.

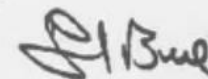
**IF YOU WISH TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

GO TO YOUR NEAREST UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OFFICE OR COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER, REGISTER FOR WORK AND FILE FOR BENEFITS.

TAKE YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT CARD AND YOUR "RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT" FORM WITH YOU.



JOHN F. HUDACS  
COMMISSIONER OF LABOR



FREDERIC J. BUSE, DIRECTOR  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DIVISION

TO EMPLOYER: POST CONSPICUOUSLY IN EACH WORKPLACE. FOR ADDITIONAL POSTERS WRITE TO:

N.Y.  
L1/  
H  
A

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
TERMINATION SECTION  
OFFICE CAMPUS  
240

# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

## LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS

Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within one year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job;
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave.

Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions.

An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave;\* and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.

\*Special "hours of service" requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis, but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

## BENEFITS & PROTECTIONS

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

## REQUESTING LEAVE

## EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES

## ENFORCEMENT

For additional information or to file a complaint:

**1-866-4-USWAGE**

(1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

**[www.dol.gov/whd](http://www.dol.gov/whd)**

U.S. Department of Labor | Wage and Hour Division



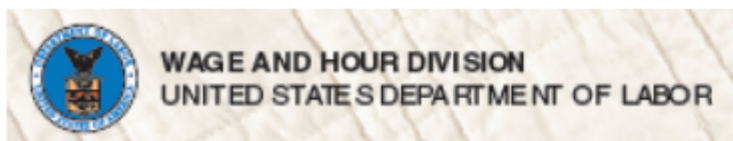
## Break Time for Nursing Mothers

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) requires employers to provide break time and space for a covered non-exempt nursing mother to express breast milk for her nursing child for one year after her child's birth.

- Employers must allow reasonable break time whenever a covered employee needs to express breast milk.
- Employers must provide covered employees with space that is:
  - functional for expressing milk — shielded from view
  - free from intrusion
  - available as needed, AND
  - NOT a bathroom.

Exempt employees may be covered under a state law providing breaks for nursing mothers. If an employer has fewer than 50 employees AND can demonstrate that compliance with this law would impose an undue hardship on the employer, that employer does not have to provide nursing breaks.

Note: Employers are not required to pay nursing mothers for breaks taken for the purpose of expressing milk. However, where employers already provide paid breaks, the employer must pay an employee who uses those breaks to express milk.



under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)

## Public Employees Job Safety & Health Protection

*The New York State Public Employee Safety and Health Act of 1980 provides job safety and health protection for workers through the promotion of safe and healthful working conditions throughout the State. Requirements of the Act include the following:*

### Employers

Employers must provide employees with a workplace that is:

- free from recognized hazards,
- in compliance with the safety and health standards that apply to the workplace, and
- in compliance with any other regulations issued under the PESH Act by the Commissioner of Labor.

### Employees

Employees must comply with all safety and health standards that apply to their actions on the job. Employees must also comply with any regulations issued under the PESH Act that apply to their job.

### Enforcement

The New York State Department of Labor administers and enforces the PESH Act. The Commissioner of Labor issues safety and health standards. The Department's Division of Safety and Health (DOSH) has Inspectors and Hygienists who inspect workplaces to make sure they are following the PESH Act.

### Inspection

When DOSH staff inspect a workplace, a representative of the employer and a representative approved by the employees must be allowed to help with the inspection. When there is no employee-approved representative, DOSH staff must speak with a fair number of employees about the safety and health conditions in the workplace.

### Order to Comply

If the Department believes an employer has violated the PESH Act, we will issue an order to comply notice to the employer. The order will list dates by which each violation must be fixed. If violations are not fixed by those dates, the employer may be fined.

The order to comply must be posted at or near the place of violation, where it can be easily seen. This is to warn employees that a danger may exist.

### Complaint

Any interested person may file a complaint if they believe there are unsafe or unhealthful conditions in a public workplace. This includes:

- An employee
- A representative of an employee
- Groups of employees
- A representative of a group of employees

Make this complaint in writing to the nearest DOSH office or by email to: [Ask.SHNYPESH@labor.ny.gov](mailto:Ask.SHNYPESH@labor.ny.gov). On request, DOSH will not release the names of any employees who file a complaint. The Department of Labor will evaluate each complaint. The Department will notify the person who made the complaint of the results of the investigation.

These complaints may also be made to the United States Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration online at: [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

### Discrimination

Employees may not be fired or discriminated against in any way for filing safety and health complaints or otherwise exercising their rights under the Act.

If an employee believes that they have been discriminated against, he or she may file a complaint with the nearest DOSH office. File this complaint within 30 days of the discrimination incident.

### Voluntary Activity

The Department of Labor encourages employers and employees to voluntarily:

- reduce workplace hazards, and
- develop and improve safety and health programs in all workplaces.

The Division of Safety and Health can provide free help with identifying and correcting job site hazards. Employers may request this assistance on a voluntary basis by emailing: [Ask.SHNYPESH@labor.ny.gov](mailto:Ask.SHNYPESH@labor.ny.gov).

**Additional information may be obtained from the nearest DOSH District Office below:**

#### Albany District

State Office Campus  
Bldg. 12, Rm. 158  
Albany, NY 12240  
Tel: (518) 457-5508

#### Binghamton District

44 Hawley St., Rm. 901  
Binghamton, NY 13901  
Tel: (607) 721-8211

#### Buffalo District

65 Court Street  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
Tel: (716) 847-7133

#### Garden City District

400 Oak Street  
Garden City, NY 11550  
Tel: (516) 228-3970

#### New York City District

75 Varick St., 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10013  
Tel: (212) 775-3554

#### Rochester District

109 S. Union St., Rm. 402  
Rochester, NY 14607  
Tel: (585) 258-8806

#### Syracuse District

450 South Salina Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
Tel: (315) 479-3212

#### Utica District

207 Genesee Street  
Utica, NY 13501  
Tel: (315) 793-2258

#### White Plains District

120 Bloomingdale Road  
White Plains, NY 10605  
Tel: (914) 997-9514

**Post Conspicuously**

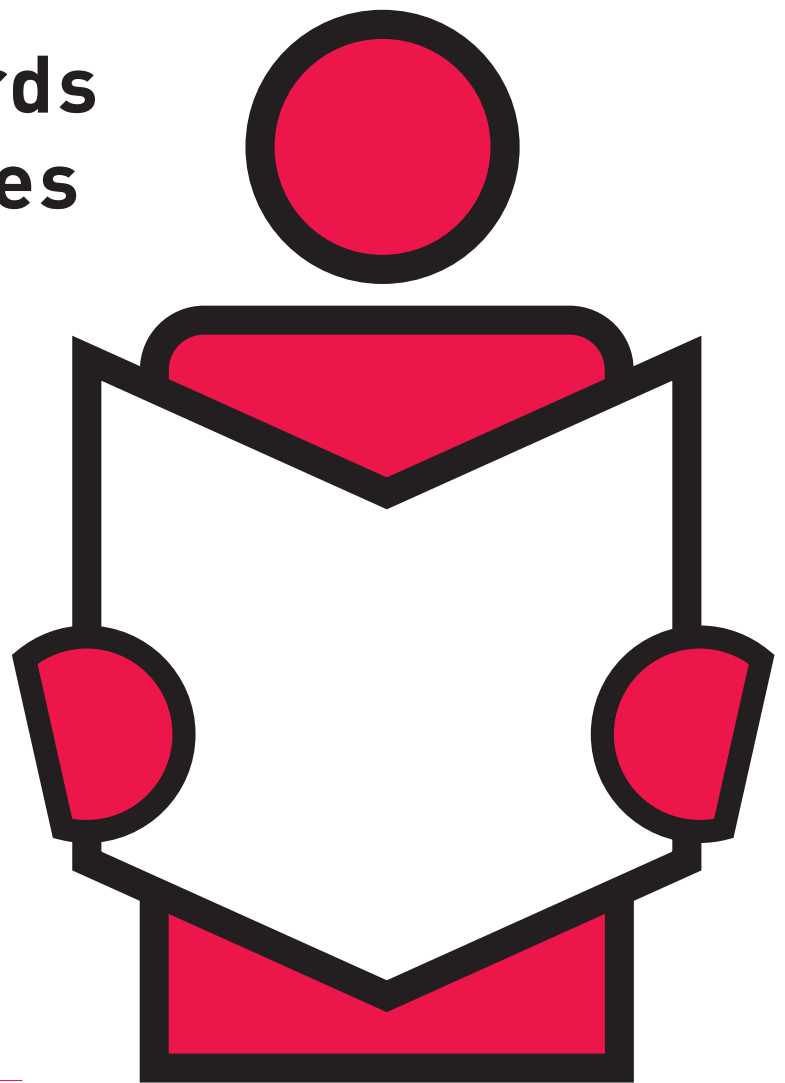
**A Division of the New York State Department of Labor**

# YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW!

Your employer must inform you of the health effects and hazards of toxic substances at your worksite.

Learn all you can about toxic substances on your job.

For more information, contact:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Location & Phone Number

**THE RIGHT TO KNOW LAW WORKS FOR YOU.**  
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



# VETERAN BENEFITS AND SERVICES

The following resources and hotlines are available at no-cost to help veterans understand their rights, protections, benefits, and accommodations:

[dol.ny.gov/veteran-benefits-and-services](http://dol.ny.gov/veteran-benefits-and-services)

## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE RESOURCES

*All calls and texts are free and confidential*

### U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Crisis

**Line:** [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)

Call: 988, press 1      Text: 838255

### Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)

Call: 988      Text: 988

### Crisis Textline:

Text: 741741      Chat: [crisistextline.org](http://crisistextline.org)

### NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH):

[www.omh.ny.gov](http://www.omh.ny.gov)

### NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports

**(OASAS):** [www.oasas.ny.gov/hopeline](http://www.oasas.ny.gov/hopeline)

Call: 1-877-8-HOPENY (467469)

Text: HOPENY (467369)

## TAX BENEFITS

### NYS Department of Tax and Finance

- Information for military personnel and veterans: [tax.ny.gov/pit/file/military\\_page.htm](http://tax.ny.gov/pit/file/military_page.htm)
- Property tax exemptions: [tax.ny.gov/pit/property/exemption/vetexempt.htm](http://tax.ny.gov/pit/property/exemption/vetexempt.htm)

## EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND TRAINING RESOURCES

### Veteran Readiness and Employment

**(VR&E) Program:** [www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab](http://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab)

**New York State Civil Service Credits for Veterans Program:** [www.cs.ny.gov](http://www.cs.ny.gov)

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### NYS Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline:

Call: 800-942-6906 Text: 844-997-2121

### NYS Workplace Sexual Harassment Hotline:

Call: 1-800-HARASS-3

### NYS Department of Motor Vehicles:

- Veteran Status Designation Photo Document: [dmv.ny.gov/more-info/veteran-status-designation-photo-document](http://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/veteran-status-designation-photo-document)
- Veteran License Plate: [dmv.ny.gov/plates/military-and-veterans](http://dmv.ny.gov/plates/military-and-veterans)

## LEGAL SERVICES

**Veterans Treatment Courts (VTC):** [ww2.nycourts.gov/courts/problem\\_solving/vet/courts.shtml](http://ww2.nycourts.gov/courts/problem_solving/vet/courts.shtml)

Email: [ProblemSolving@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:ProblemSolving@courts.state.ny.us)

### NYS Defenders Association Veteran Defense Program:

[www.nysda.org/page/AboutVDP](http://www.nysda.org/page/AboutVDP)

## NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Website: [veterans.ny.gov](http://veterans.ny.gov)

Help Line: 1-888-838-7697

Email: [DVSInfo@veterans.ny.gov](mailto:DVSInfo@veterans.ny.gov)

*Services:* Legal, education, employment and volunteer, financial, health care, and more.

## NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR VETERANS' PROGRAM

Website: [dol.ny.gov/services-veterans](http://dol.ny.gov/services-veterans)

Help Line: 1-888-469-7365

Email: [Ask.Vets@labor.ny.gov](mailto:Ask.Vets@labor.ny.gov)

*Services:* Workforce and training resources, unemployment insurance, the Experience Counts program, and more.



**Division of  
Veterans' Services**

**WE ARE YOUR DOL**



**Department  
of Labor**





# YOUR RIGHTS UNDER USERRA

## THE UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT

**USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.**

### REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- ☆ you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- ☆ you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- ☆ you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- ☆ you have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

### RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION

If you:

- ☆ are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- ☆ have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- ☆ are obligated to serve in the uniformed service;

then an employer may not deny you:

- ☆ initial employment;
- ☆ reemployment;
- ☆ retention in employment;
- ☆ promotion; or
- ☆ any benefit of employment

because of this status.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

### HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION

- ☆ If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.
- ☆ Even if you don't elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

### ENFORCEMENT

- ☆ The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.
- ☆ For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at 1-866-4-USA-DOL or visit its website at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/>. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at <https://webapps.dol.gov/elaws/vets/userra>
- ☆ If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable, for representation.
- ☆ You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS, and may be viewed on the internet at this address: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/userra/poster> Federal law requires employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying the text of this notice where they customarily place notices for employees.



**U.S. Department of Labor**  
1-866-487-2365



**U.S. Department of Justice**



**Office of Special Counsel**



**1-800-336-4590**

Publication Date – May 2022



## WAGE THEFT PREVENTION ACT

The Wage Theft Prevention Act (WTPA), which gives more protection to workers in New York State, took effect on April 9, 2011. Here are some key provisions of the law that employers need to know.

### PUBLIC NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS

If an employer breaks certain parts of the law, the New York State Department of Labor may post the violation in a place where employees can see it for up to a year.

For a willful failure to pay all wages under this law, the New York State Department of Labor may post a summary of violations in a place where the public can see it, for up to 90 days. **It is a misdemeanor to remove or tamper with this notice without permission.**

### ENHANCED RULES AGAINST RETALIATION

The WTPA extends the protections under Labor Law Section 215. It also gives the Department of Labor more power to enforce this law.

1. It was always illegal to discharge, penalize and/or discriminate against an employee who makes a complaint; threats are now included as a form of retaliation.
2. In the past, we could only cite employers for retaliation; now, it is illegal for any person within an organization/company to retaliate.
3. In the past, penalties for breaking this rule meant we could fine an employer up to \$10,000. Now, the Department of Labor can order the employer or the person who acted against the employee to pay liquidated damages. The payment can be up to \$20,000.
4. The Department of Labor may order the employer to reinstate the worker's job. The employer may have to pay the person for lost salary, or pay a lump sum in lieu of reinstatement.
5. Retaliation carries criminal penalties for employee complaints about any section of the labor law.

6. The protection applies to any worker who alleges that the employer has done something that the employee thinks breaks a labor law or an order issued by the Commissioner. This applies even if the employee is mistaken about the law, if they acted in good faith. It applies even if the employee does not cite a specific part of the labor law.
7. This law protects employees even if the employer incorrectly believes they made a complaint.

### WRITTEN NOTICE

The law already required employers to give notice to employees of their wage rates at the time of hire. Now, the WTPA requires employers to give a written notice to each new hire. The notice must include:

1. Rate or rates of pay, including overtime rate of pay (if it applies).
2. How the employee is paid – by the hour, shift, day, week, commission, etc.
3. Regular payday.
4. Official name of the employer and any other names used for business (DBA).
5. Address and phone number of the employer's main office or principal location.
6. Allowances taken as part of the minimum wage (tip, meal and lodging deductions).
7. In the past, the notices were in English; now, the notice must appear both in English and in the employee's primary language (if the Department of Labor offers a translation).
8. Employers must have each employee sign and date the completed notice; employers must provide a copy to each employee.

9. If any data in the notice changes, the employer must tell employees at least a week before it happens unless they issue a new paystub that carries the notice. The employer must notify an employee in writing before they reduce the employee's wage rate. Employers in the hospitality industry must give notice every time a wage rate changes.
10. Employers that do not give notice may have to pay damages of up to \$50 per day, per employee, unless they paid employees all wages required by law (This stops at \$5,000 per employee in civil lawsuits filed by workers.)

## 11. PAYROLL RECORDS

Under prior law, some of the recordkeeping requirements were in the statute, while others were in the regulations. Now, the requirements are part of the law, which makes it easier for employers to understand their obligations. However, industry-specific regulations will still have some additional requirements. Employers must:

- Keep records for six years; records include the new notice and acknowledgment and payroll records
- Keep accurate records of hours worked by employees and wages paid; now, the law clarifies that employers must keep the records on an ongoing basis; the employer may not make up the records after the fact at the end of the week, month or year

For each week an employee works, the payroll records must contain:

- Hours worked (regular and overtime)
- Rate or rates of pay (regular/overtime)
- How the employee is paid – by the hour, shift, day, week, commission, etc.
- Pay at the piece rate must show what rates apply and the number of pieces at each rate
- Employee's gross and net wages
- Itemized deductions
- Itemized allowances and credits claimed by the employer, if any (tip, meal and lodging allowances or credits)

## WAGE STATEMENTS

Under the new law, employers must:

1. Give each employee a wage statement or pay stub each payday that lists all of the above payroll data plus:
  - Employee's name
  - Employer's name, address and phone number
  - Dates covered by the payment
2. Give any employee who asks a written explanation of how they computed wages.

Employers that do not give wage statements may have to pay damages of up to \$250 per day, per employee, unless they paid employees all wages required by law. (This stops at \$5,000 per employee in civil lawsuits filed by employees.)

## DAMAGES AND OTHER PENALTIES

The WTPA provides for higher penalties when an employer fails to pay the wages required by law:

1. Under prior law, liquidated damages only covered up to 25% of the unpaid wages. Now, the law provides for liquidated damages on up to 100% of the unpaid wages. Once the Department of Labor issues an Order to Comply, it includes 100% liquidated damages, as well as other civil penalties and interest.
2. If the violation is for other than wages, benefits or wage supplements, the Department of Labor may assess civil penalties for each violation. This means up to \$1,000 for a first violation, \$2,000 for a second, and \$3,000 for third and subsequent violations.
3. If the Labor Commissioner has issued an Order to Comply against an employer who does not pay the money owed, then 10 days after the appeal period ends, the Department of Labor can require them to post a bond and/or provide a list of their assets. If employers fail to do so, the Commissioner may bring a court case against them. For failure to provide the list of assets, the Department of Labor may impose a penalty of up to \$10,000.
4. The WTPA permits the Department of Labor to add 15% in damages to a judgment if the employer fails to pay in full within 90 days of the final Order to Comply.

## **Guidelines for Employers: Requirements to Notify Employees About Time Off and Work Hours**

**Section 195.5 of the New York State Labor Law effective December 12, 1981 provides as follows:**

*“Every employer shall notify his employees in writing or by publicly posting the employer’s policy on sick leave, vacation, personal leave, holidays and hours.”*

**To assist employers in complying with this provision, the Division of Labor Standards has issued the following guidelines:**

1. An employer shall distribute in writing to each employee, the employer’s policy on the above- enumerated items. The employer upon the request of the Department must be able to affirmatively demonstrate that such written notification was provided to employees by means, which may include, but not be limited to, distribution through company newspapers or newsletters or by inclusion in a company payroll.

*Or*

An employer shall post and keep posted in each establishment in a conspicuous place where notices to employees are customarily posted, a notice that states where on the employer’s premises they may see such information in writing. Such information may be contained in a union contract, employee handbook, personnel manual, or in other written form. Deviations for an employee from such stated policy must be given to said employee in writing.

2. As used in the provision above, “hours” means the hours which constitute a standard workday and workweek for the establishment, and any other regular schedule, such as for part-time employees. Deviations should be given to the affected employee in writing.

For more information, call or write the nearest office of the Division of Labor Standards, of the New York State Department of Labor, listed below:

**Albany District**  
State Office Campus  
Bldg. 12 Room 185A  
Albany, NY 12240  
(518) 457-2730

**Binghamton**  
Sub-District  
44 Hawley Street  
Binghamton, NY 13901  
(607) 721-8014

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Building 12,  
Albany, NY 12240

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## Tip Appropriation

### Section 196-d of the New York State Labor Law

Section 196-d. Gratuities. No employer or his agent or an officer or agent of any corporation, or any other person shall demand or accept, directly or indirectly, any part of the gratuities, received by an employee, or retain any part of a gratuity or of any charge purported to be a gratuity for an employee. This provision shall not apply to the checking of hats, coats or other apparel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed as affecting the allowances from the minimum wage for gratuities in the amount determined in accordance with the provisions of article nineteen of this chapter nor as affecting practices in connection with banquets and other special functions where a fixed percentage of the patron's bill is added for gratuities which are distributed to employees, nor to the sharing of tips by a waiter with a busboy or similar employee.

**For more information,  
call or write the nearest  
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# NO SMOKING OR VAPING



# NO FUMAR O VAPEAR

**New York State Public Health Law - Article 13E**

NEW YORK CORRECTION LAW  
ARTICLE 23-A

LICENSURE AND EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS PREVIOUSLY  
CONVICTED OF ONE OR MORE CRIMINAL OFFENSES

**Section 750. Definitions.**

**751. Applicability.**

**752. Unfair discrimination against persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses prohibited.**

**753. Factors to be considered concerning a previous criminal conviction; presumption.**

**754. Written statement upon denial of license or employment.**

**755. Enforcement.**

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**§750. Definitions.** For the purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Public agency" means the state or any local subdivision thereof, or any state or local department, agency, board or commission.

(2) "Private employer" means any person, company, corporation, labor organization or association which employs ten or more persons.

(3) "Direct relationship" means that the nature of criminal conduct for which the person was convicted has a direct bearing on his fitness or ability to perform one or more of the duties or responsibilities necessarily related to the license, opportunity, or job in question.

(4) "License" means any certificate, license, permit or grant of permission required by the laws of this state, its political subdivisions or instrumentalities as a condition for the lawful practice of any occupation, employment, trade, vocation, business, or profession. Provided, however, that "license" shall not, for the purposes of this article, include any license or permit to own, possess, carry, or fire any explosive, pistol, handgun, rifle, shotgun, or other firearm.

(5) "Employment" means any occupation, vocation or employment, or any form of vocational or educational training. Provided, however, that "employment" shall not, for the purposes of this article, include membership in any law enforcement agency.

**§751. Applicability.** The provisions of this article shall apply to any application by any person for a license or employment at any public or private employer, who has previously been convicted of one or more criminal offenses in this state or in any other jurisdiction, and to any license or employment held by any person whose conviction of one or more criminal offenses in this state or in any other jurisdiction preceded such employment or granting of a license, except where a mandatory forfeiture, disability or bar to employment is imposed by law, and has not been removed by an executive pardon, certificate of relief from disabilities or certificate of good conduct. Nothing in this article shall be construed to affect any right an employer may have with respect to an intentional misrepresentation in connection with an application for employment made by a prospective employee or previously made by a current employee.

**§752. Unfair discrimination against persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses prohibited.** No application for any license or employment, and no employment or license held by an individual, to which the provisions of this article are applicable, shall be denied or acted upon adversely by reason of the individual's having been previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses, or by reason of a finding of lack of "good moral character" when such finding is based upon the fact that the individual has previously been convicted of one or more criminal offenses, unless:

(1) There is a direct relationship between one or more previous criminal offenses and the specific license or employment sought or held by the individual; or

(2) the issuance or continuation of the license or the grant or continuation of the employment would involve an unreasonable risk to property or to the safety or welfare of specific individuals or the general public.

**§753. Factors to be considered concerning a previous criminal conviction; presumption.** 1. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall consider the following factors:

(a) The public policy of this state, as expressed in this article, to encourage the licensure and employment of persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses.

(b) The specific duties and responsibilities necessarily related to the license or employment sought or held by the person.

(c) The bearing, if any, the criminal offense or offenses for which the person was previously convicted will have on his fitness or ability to perform one or more such duties or responsibilities.

(d) The time which has elapsed since the occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.

(e) The age of the person at the time of occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.

(f) The seriousness of the offense or offenses.

(g) Any information produced by the person, or produced on his behalf, in regard to his rehabilitation and good conduct.

(h) The legitimate interest of the public agency or private employer in protecting property, and the safety and welfare of specific individuals or the general public.

2. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall also give consideration to a certificate of relief from disabilities or a certificate of good conduct issued to the applicant, which certificate shall create a presumption of rehabilitation in regard to the offense or offenses specified therein.



**§754. Written statement upon denial of license or employment.** At the request of any person previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses who has been denied a license or employment, a public agency or private employer shall provide, within thirty days of a request, a written statement setting forth the reasons for such denial.

**§755. Enforcement.** 1. In relation to actions by public agencies, the provisions of this article shall be enforceable by a proceeding brought pursuant to article seventy-eight of the civil practice law and rules.

2. In relation to actions by private employers, the provisions of this article shall be enforceable by the division of human rights pursuant to the powers and procedures set forth in article fifteen of the executive law, and, concurrently, by the New York city commission on human rights.

## **Deductions from Wages**

### **Section 193 of the New York State Labor Law**

#### **§ 193. Deductions from wages.**

1. No employer shall make any deduction from the wages of an employee, except deductions which:

- a) are made in accordance with the provisions of any law or any rule or regulation issued by any governmental agency including regulations promulgated under paragraph c and paragraph d of this subdivision; or
- b) are expressly authorized in writing by the employee and are for the benefit of the employee, provided that such authorization is voluntary and only given following receipt by the employee of written notice of all terms and conditions of the payment and/or its benefits and the details of the manner in which deductions will be made. Whenever there is a substantial change in the terms or conditions of the payment, including but not limited to, any change in the amount of the deduction, or a substantial change in the benefits of the deduction or the details in the manner in which deductions shall be made, the employer shall, as soon as practicable, but in each case before any increased deduction is made on the employee's behalf, notify the employee prior to the implementation of the change. Such authorization shall be kept on file on the employer's premises for the period during which the employee is employed by the employer and for six years after such employment ends. Notwithstanding the foregoing, employee authorization for deductions under this section may also be provided to the employer pursuant to the terms of a collective bargaining agreement. Such authorized deductions shall be limited to payments for:
  - (i) insurance premiums and prepaid legal plans;
  - (ii) pension or health and welfare benefits;
  - (iii) contributions to a bona fide charitable organization;
  - (iv) purchases made at events sponsored by a bona fide charitable organization affiliated with the employer where at least twenty percent of the profits from such event are being contributed to a bona fide charitable organization;
  - (v) United States bonds;
  - (vi) dues or assessments to a labor organization;
  - (vii) discounted parking or discounted passes, tokens, fare cards, vouchers, or other items that entitle the employee to use mass transit;
  - (viii) fitness center, health club, and/or gym membership dues;
  - (ix) cafeteria and vending machine purchases made at the employer's place of business and purchases made at gift shops operated by the employer, where the employer is a hospital, college, or university;
  - (x) pharmacy purchases made at the employer's place of business;
  - (xi) tuition, room, board, and fees for pre-school, nursery, primary, secondary, and/or post-secondary educational institutions;
  - (xii) day care, before-school and after-school care expenses;
  - (xiii) payments for housing provided at no more than market rates by non-profit hospitals or affiliates thereof; and
  - (xiv) similar payments for the benefit of the employee.

- c) are related to recovery of an overpayment of wages where such overpayment is due to a mathematical or other clerical error by the employer. In making such recoveries, the employer shall comply with regulations promulgated by the commissioner for this purpose, which regulations shall include, but not be limited to, provisions governing: the size of overpayments that may be covered by this section; the timing, frequency, duration, and method of such recovery; limitations on the periodic amount of such recovery; a requirement that notice be provided to the employee prior to the commencement of such recovery; a requirement that the employer implement a procedure for disputing the amount of such overpayment or seeking to delay commencement of such recovery; the terms and content of such a procedure and a requirement that notice of the procedure for disputing the overpayment or seeking to delay commencement of such recovery be provided to the employee prior to the commencement of such recovery.
  - d) repayment of advances of salary or wages made by the employer to the employee. Deductions to cover such repayments shall be made in accordance with regulations promulgated by the commissioner for this purpose, which regulations shall include, but not be limited to, provisions governing: the timing, frequency, duration, and method of such repayment; limitations on the periodic amount of such repayment; a requirement that notice be provided to the employee prior to the commencement of such repayment; a requirement that the employer implement a procedure for disputing the amount of such repayment or seeking to delay commencement of such repayment; the terms and content of such a procedure and a requirement that notice of the procedure for disputing the repayment or seeking to delay commencement of such repayment be provided to the employee at the time the loan is made.
2. Deductions made in conjunction with an employer sponsored pre-tax contribution plan approved by the IRS or other local taxing authority, including those falling within one or more of the categories set forth in paragraph b of subdivision one of this section, shall be considered to have been made in accordance with paragraph a of subdivision one of this section.
  3. a. No employer shall make any charge against wages, or require an employee to make any payment by separate transaction unless such charge or payment is permitted as a deduction from wages under the provisions of subdivision one of this section or is permitted or required under any provision of a current collective bargaining agreement.
    - b. Notwithstanding the existence of employee authorization to make deductions in accordance with subparagraphs (iv), (ix), and (x) of paragraph b of subdivision one of this section and deductions determined by the commissioner to be similar to such deductions in accordance with subparagraph (xiv) of paragraph b of subdivision one of this section, the total aggregate amount of such deductions for each pay period shall be subject to the following limitations: (i) such aggregate amount shall not exceed a maximum aggregate limit established by the employer for each pay period; (ii) such aggregate amount shall not exceed a maximum aggregate limit established by the employee, which limit may be any amount (in ten dollar increments) up to the maximum amount established by the employer under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph; (iii) the employer shall not permit any purchases within these categories of deduction by the employee that exceed the aggregate limit established by the employee or, if no limit has been set by the employee, the limit set by the employer; (iv) the employee shall have access within the workplace to current account information detailing individual expenditures within these categories of deduction and a running total of the amount that will be deducted from the employee's pay during the next applicable pay period. Information shall be available in printed form or capable of being printed should the employee wish to obtain a listing. No employee may be charged any fee, directly or indirectly, for access to, or printing of, such account information.
    - c. With the exception of wage deductions required or authorized in a current existing collective bargaining agreement, an employee's authorization for any and all wage deductions may be revoked in writing at any time. The employer must cease the wage deduction for which the employee has revoked authorization as soon as practicable, and, in no event more than four pay periods or eight weeks after the authorization has been withdrawn, whichever is sooner.
  4. Nothing in this section shall justify noncompliance with article three-A of the personal property law relating to assignment of earnings, with section two hundred twenty-one of this chapter relating to company stores or with any other law applicable to deductions from wages.
  5. There is no exception to liability under this section for the unauthorized failure to pay wages, benefits or wage supplements.

## **Equal Pay Provision of the New York State Labor Law**

### Article 6, Section 194

§ 194. Differential in rate of pay because of protected class status prohibited.

1. No employee with status within one or more protected class or classes shall be paid a wage at a rate less than the rate at which an employee without status within the same protected class or classes in the same establishment is paid for: (a) equal work on a job the performance of which requires equal skill, effort and responsibility, and which is performed under similar working conditions, or (b) substantially similar work, when viewed as a composite of skill, effort, and responsibility, and performed under similar working conditions; except where payment is made pursuant to a differential based on:

(i) a seniority system;

(ii) a merit system;

(iii) a system which measures earnings by quantity or quality of production;

(iv) a bona fide factor other than status within one or more protected class or classes, such as education, training, or experience. Such factor:

(A) shall not be based upon or derived from a differential in compensation based on status within one or more protected class or classes and

(B) shall be job-related with respect to the position in question and shall be consistent with business necessity. Such exception under this paragraph shall not apply when the employee demonstrates

(1) that an employer uses a particular employment practice that causes a disparate impact on the basis of status within one or more protected class or classes,

(2) that an alternative employment practice exists that would serve the same business purpose and not produce such differential, and

(3) that the employer has refused to adopt such alternative practice.

2. For the purpose of subdivision one of this section:

(a) "business necessity" shall be defined as a factor that bears a manifest relationship to the employment in question, and

(b) "protected class" shall include age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status, or domestic violence victim status, and any employee protected from discrimination pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subdivision one of section two hundred ninety-six and any intern protected from discrimination pursuant to section two hundred ninety-six-c of the executive law.

3. For the purposes of subdivision one of this section, employees shall be deemed to work in the same establishment if the employees work for the same employer at workplaces located in the same geographical region, no larger than a county, taking into account population distribution, economic activity, and/or the presence of municipalities.

4. (a) No employer shall prohibit an employee from inquiring about, discussing, or disclosing the wages of such employee or another employee.

(b) An employer may, in a written policy provided to all employees, establish reasonable workplace and workday limitations on the time, place and manner for inquires about, discussion of, or the disclosure of wages. Such limitations shall be consistent with standards promulgated by the commissioner and shall be consistent with all other state and federal laws. Such limitations may include prohibiting an employee from discussing or disclosing the wages of another employee without such employee's prior permission.

(c) Nothing in this subdivision shall require an employee to disclose his or her wages. The failure of an employee to adhere to such reasonable limitations in such written policy shall be an affirmative defense to any claims made against an employer under this subdivision, provided that any adverse employment action taken by the employer was for failure to adhere to such reasonable limitations and not for mere inquiry, discussion or disclosure of wages in accordance with such reasonable limitations in such written policy.

(d) This prohibition shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the wage information of other employees as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the wages of such other employees to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a complaint or charge, or in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action under this chapter, including an investigation conducted by the employer.

(e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the rights of an employee provided under any other provision of law or collective bargaining agreement.

**For more information,  
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## Prevention of sexual harassment

Labor (LAB) CHAPTER 31, ARTICLE 7

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§ 201-g. Prevention of sexual harassment. 1. The department shall consult with the division of human rights to create and publish a model sexual harassment prevention guidance document and sexual harassment prevention policy that employers may utilize in their adoption of a sexual harassment prevention policy required by this section.

a. Such model sexual harassment prevention policy shall: (i) prohibit sexual harassment consistent with guidance issued by the department in consultation with the division of human rights and provide examples of prohibited conduct that would constitute unlawful sexual harassment; (ii) include but not be limited to information concerning the federal and state statutory provisions concerning sexual harassment and remedies available to victims of sexual harassment and a statement that there may be applicable local laws; (iii) include a standard complaint form; (iv) include a procedure for the timely and confidential investigation of complaints and ensure due process for all parties; (v) inform employees of their rights of redress and all available forums for adjudicating sexual harassment complaints administratively and judicially; (vi) clearly state that sexual harassment is considered a form of employee misconduct and that sanctions will be enforced against individuals engaging in sexual harassment and against supervisory and managerial personnel who knowingly allow such behavior to continue; and (vii) clearly state that retaliation against individuals who complain of sexual harassment or who testify or assist in any proceeding under the law is unlawful.

b. Every employer shall adopt the model sexual harassment prevention policy promulgated pursuant to this subdivision or establish a sexual harassment prevention policy to prevent sexual harassment that equals or exceeds the minimum standards provided by such model sexual harassment prevention policy. Such sexual harassment prevention policy shall be provided to all employees in writing as required by subdivision two-a of this section. Such model sexual harassment prevention policy shall be publicly available and posted on the websites of both the department and the division of human rights.

2. The department shall consult with the division of human rights and produce a model sexual harassment prevention training program to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace.

a. Such model sexual harassment prevention training program shall be interactive and include: (i) an explanation of sexual harassment consistent with guidance issued by the department in consultation with the division of human rights; (ii) examples of conduct that would constitute unlawful sexual harassment; (iii) information concerning the federal and state statutory provisions concerning sexual harassment and remedies available to victims of sexual harassment; and (iv) information concerning employees' rights of redress and all available forums for adjudicating complaints.

b. The department shall include information in such model sexual harassment prevention training program addressing conduct by supervisors and any additional responsibilities for such supervisors.

c. Every employer shall utilize the model sexual harassment prevention training program pursuant to this subdivision or establish a training program for employees to prevent sexual harassment that equals or exceeds the minimum standards provided by such model training. Such sexual harassment prevention training shall be provided to all employees on an annual basis.

2-a. a. Every employer shall provide his or her employees, in writing in English and in the language identified by each employee as the primary language of such employee, at the time of hiring and at every annual sexual harassment prevention training provided pursuant to subdivision two of this section, a notice containing such employer's sexual harassment prevention policy and the information presented at such employer's sexual harassment prevention training program.

b. The commissioner shall prepare templates of the model sexual harassment prevention policy created and published pursuant to subdivision one of this section and the model sexual harassment prevention training program produced pursuant to subdivision two of this section. The commissioner shall determine, in his or her discretion, which languages to provide in addition to English, based on the size of the New York state population that speaks each language and any other factor that the commissioner shall deem relevant. All such templates shall be made available to employers in such manner as determined by the commissioner.

c. When an employee identifies as his or her primary language a language for which a template is not available from the commissioner, the employer shall comply with this subdivision by providing that employee an English-language notice.

d. An employer shall not be penalized for errors or omissions in the non-English portions of any notice provided by the commissioner.

3. The commissioner may promulgate regulations as he or she deems necessary for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section.

4. Beginning in the year two thousand twenty-two, and every succeeding four years thereafter, the department in consultation with the division of human rights shall evaluate, using the criteria within this section, the impact of the current model sexual harassment prevention guidance document and sexual harassment prevention policy. Upon the completion of each evaluation the department shall update the model sexual harassment prevention guidance document and sexual harassment prevention policy as needed.

## **Notice of Employee Rights, Protections, and Obligations Under Labor Law Section 740**

### **Prohibited Retaliatory Personnel Action by Employers Effective January 26, 2022**

§ 740. Retaliatory action by employers; prohibition.

1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, unless the context specifically indicates otherwise:

- (a) “Employee” means an individual who performs services for and under the control and direction of an employer for wages or other remuneration, including former employees, or natural persons employed as independent contractors to carry out work in furtherance of an employer’s business enterprise who are not themselves employers.
- (b) “Employer” means any person, firm, partnership, institution, corporation, or association that employs one or more employees.
- (c) “Law, rule or regulation” includes: (i) any duly enacted federal, state or local statute or ordinance or executive order; (ii) any rule or regulation promulgated pursuant to such statute or ordinance or executive order; or (iii) any judicial or administrative decision, ruling or order.
- (d) “Public body” includes the following:
  - (i) the United States Congress, any state legislature, or any elected local governmental body, or any member or employee thereof;
  - (ii) any federal, state, or local court, or any member or employee thereof, or any grand or petit jury;
  - (iii) any federal, state, or local regulatory, administrative, or public agency or authority, or instrumentality thereof;
  - (iv) any federal, state, or local law enforcement agency, prosecutorial office, or police or peace officer;
  - (v) any federal, state or local department of an executive branch of government; or
  - (vi) any division, board, bureau, office, committee, or commission of any of the public bodies described in subparagraphs (i) through (v) of this paragraph.
- (e) “Retaliatory action” means an adverse action taken by an employer or his or her agent to discharge, threaten, penalize, or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or former employee exercising his or her rights under this section, including (i) adverse employment actions or threats to take such adverse employment actions against an employee in the terms of conditions of employment including but not limited to discharge, suspension, or demotion; (ii) actions or threats to take such actions that would adversely impact a former employee’s current or future employment; or (iii) threatening to contact or contacting United States immigration authorities or otherwise reporting or threatening to report an employee’s suspected citizenship or immigration status or the suspected citizenship or immigration status of an employee’s family or household member, as defined in subdivision two of section four hundred fifty-nine-a of the social services law, to a federal, state, or local agency.
- (f) “Supervisor” means any individual within an employer’s organization who has the authority to direct and control the work performance of the affected employee; or who has managerial authority to take corrective action regarding the violation of the law, rule or regulation of which the employee complains.



2. Prohibitions. An employer shall not take any retaliatory action against an employee, whether or not within the scope of the employee's job duties, because such employee does any of the following:
  - (a) discloses, or threatens to disclose to a supervisor or to a public body an activity, policy or practice of the employer that the employee reasonably believes is in violation of law, rule or regulation or that the employee reasonably believes poses a substantial and specific danger to the public health or safety;
  - (b) provides information to, or testifies before, any public body conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry into any such activity, policy or practice by such employer; or
  - (c) objects to, or refuses to participate in any such activity, policy or practice.
3. Application. The protection against retaliatory action provided by paragraph (a) of subdivision two of this section pertaining to disclosure to a public body shall not apply to an employee who makes such disclosure to a public body unless the employee has made a good faith effort to notify his or her employer by bringing the activity, policy or practice to the attention of a supervisor of the employer and has afforded such employer a reasonable opportunity to correct such activity, policy or practice. Such employer notification shall not be required where:
  - (a) there is an imminent and serious danger to the public health or safety;
  - (b) the employee reasonably believes that reporting to the supervisor would result in a destruction of evidence or other concealment of the activity, policy or practice;
  - (c) such activity, policy or practice could reasonably be expected to lead to endangering the welfare of a minor;
  - (d) the employee reasonably believes that reporting to the supervisor would result in physical harm to the employee or any other person; or
  - (e) the employee reasonably believes that the supervisor is already aware of the activity, policy or practice and will not correct such activity, policy or practice.
4. Violation; remedy.
  - (a) An employee who has been the subject of a retaliatory action in violation of this section may institute a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction for relief as set forth in subdivision five of this section within two years after the alleged retaliatory action was taken.
  - (b) Any action authorized by this section may be brought in the county in which the alleged retaliatory action occurred, in the county in which the complainant resides, or in the county in which the employer has its principal place of business. In any such action, the parties shall be entitled to a jury trial.
  - (c) It shall be a defense to any action brought pursuant to this section that the retaliatory action was predicated upon grounds other than the employee's exercise of any rights protected by this section.
5. Relief. In any action brought pursuant to subdivision four of this section, the court may order relief as follows:
  - (a) an injunction to restrain continued violation of this section;
  - (b) the reinstatement of the employee to the same position held before the retaliatory action, or to an equivalent position, or front pay in lieu thereof;
  - (c) the reinstatement of full fringe benefits and seniority rights;
  - (d) the compensation for lost wages, benefits and other remuneration;
  - (e) the payment by the employer of reasonable costs, disbursements, and attorney's fees;
  - (f) a civil penalty of an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars; and/or
  - (g) the payment by the employer of punitive damages, if the violation was willful, malicious or wanton.

6. Employer relief. A court, in its discretion, may also order that reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs and disbursements be awarded to an employer if the court determines that an action brought by an employee under this section was without basis in law or in fact.
7. Existing rights. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to diminish the rights, privileges, or remedies of any employee under any other law or regulation or under any collective bargaining agreement or employment contract.
8. Publication. Every employer shall inform employees of their protections, rights and obligations under this section, by posting a notice thereof. Such notices shall be posted conspicuously in easily accessible and well-lighted places customarily frequented by employees and applicants for employment.