



COVID-19

FREQUENTLY ASKED PFL QUESTIONS REGARDING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Q. Can an individual who is presently ill due to coronavirus (COVID-19) file a claim for benefits now with the Office of Paid Family Leave (OPFL)?

A. No. An individual cannot file a claim for paid family leave (PFL) benefits until July 1, 2020.

Q. After July 1, 2020, will someone be eligible for PFL benefits who is quarantined due to COVID-19 but is not experiencing symptoms and has not received an official diagnosis?

A. No, PFL benefits will not be paid to individuals who are quarantined but have not received an official diagnosis of COVID-19.

Q. Will the PFL Benefits Program still launch on July 1, 2020?

A. The PFL program is currently on schedule to accept claims for PFL benefits. However, the current COVID-19 emergency may pose unforeseen challenges. OPFL continues to monitor the District's emergency status and will assess any potential changes to the program's schedule. For the latest information on our PFL implementation efforts, please visit the PFL website at dcpaidfamilyleave.dc.gov.

Q. Will PFL benefits be paid retroactively to individuals who are diagnosed with COVID-19 before July 1, 2020?

A. No, PFL benefits will not be awarded retroactively for leave taken before July 1, 2020.

Q. If an individual is unemployed due to COVID-19 and has not regained employment by July 1, 2020, would the individual be eligible to file a claim for PFL benefits on July 1?

A. If the individual is unemployed before July 1, 2020, then they would not be eligible to file a claim for PFL benefits. An individual must be currently employed by a covered employer to be eligible to file a claim for PFL benefits.

Q. If an individual is receiving other benefits due to the pandemic, can they also receive PFL benefits during the state of emergency?

A. An individual who receives benefits from another source can receive PFL benefits for the same qualifying event, except for unemployment compensation and long-term disability compensation.

Q. If a family member is diagnosed with COVID-19, can an individual file a claim for PFL benefits to care for that individual?

A. Yes, an individual may file a claim for PFL benefits to provide care or companionship to a family member diagnosed with COVID-19. Eligibility will be determined on a case-by-case basis.