

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.

§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 of the 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 granting 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 act, 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.

New York State Disability Benefits

STATEMENT OF RIGHTS



Workers'
Compensation
Board

If you are unable to work due to a non-occupational illness or injury, you may be entitled to disability benefits.

1. You may be entitled to statutory disability benefits for a non-work-related injury or illness (including disability due to pregnancy) beginning with the eighth consecutive day of disability. Disability benefits are paid **directly to you** by your employer's insurer, **not** through your employer, unless your employer is an approved self-insurer. You can take up to 26 weeks of disability at 50% of your average weekly wage, capped at \$170 per week. Generally, your average weekly wage is the average of your last eight weeks of pay prior to starting disability. Your employer or union may provide different benefits, at least as favorable as statutory, under an approved disability benefits plan or agreement.
2. If you also take New York State (NYS) Paid Family Leave (PFL), your combined total disability leave and PFL in any consecutive 52-week period may not exceed 26 weeks. You cannot take PFL and disability leave at the same time.
3. You can be treated by any physician, podiatrist, chiropractor, dentist, nurse midwife, or psychologist who can certify your disability. Your medical bills are not covered, unless your employer and/or union provides for the payment of medical bills under an approved disability benefits plan or agreement.
4. Your employer may **not** ask you to waive your right to disability benefits. Employers may collect a maximum contribution of 60 cents/week to offset the insurance premium (unless the additional contribution is part of an approved plan). **You cannot be discriminated or retaliated against for requesting or taking disability benefits.**
5. Your employer or employer's insurer is required to begin payment or issue a **Notice of Denial (Form DB-DEN)** or **Notice of Rejection (Form DB-451)** within 18 days of your first day of disability leave or receipt of your completed claim, whichever is later. If you receive **Form DB-DEN**, you will also receive **Form DB-451** with additional information within 45 days of your first day of disability leave or the receipt of your completed claim, whichever is later. If after these 45 days, you have not received benefits or **Form DB-451**, promptly contact the NYS Workers' Compensation Board (Board) at **(877) 632-4996**. NOTE: If you receive **Form DB-451** and disagree, you may request a review by writing to the Board at the bottom right address.

To file a claim:

1. Obtain a **Notice and Proof of Claim for Disability Benefits (Form DB-450)**, either from the Board at wcb.ny.gov, or from your employer, or your employer's insurer.
2. Follow instructions to complete/submit the form, which includes sections your employer and health care provider must complete.
3. Submit the form to your employer's insurer within 30 days of your first day of disability. If your claim is not paid promptly, contact your employer or their insurer. If you file late, you may not be paid for any disability period more than two weeks before the date you filed. Late filings may be excused if you can show it wasn't reasonably possible to file earlier. No benefits are payable if you file more than 26 weeks after your disability begins, or after you return to work.

Do not assume that your employer has filed a claim on your behalf: filing a claim is your responsibility.

Note: If your disability is the result of an automobile accident, and you have filed a claim for no-fault benefits, **you must** also file a **Form DB-450** for disability benefits. If you do not file for disability benefits, the no-fault insurer may reduce your no-fault payments.

IMPORTANT: In such cases, if you are not entitled to disability benefits, immediately advise the no-fault insurer.

FOR HELP OBTAINING A CLAIM FORM OR FILLING IT OUT, OR OTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT BENEFITS FOR YOUR NON-WORK-RELATED INJURY OR ILLNESS, PLEASE CALL **(877) 632-4996**. A BOARD REPRESENTATIVE WILL HELP.

This information is a simplified presentation of your rights as required by Section 229 of the Disability and Paid Family Leave Benefits Law.

Your employer's disability benefits insurance carrier is:

The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America
10 Hudson Yards, New York, NY 10001
800-268-2525

PRESCRIBED BY THE CHAIR,
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD
NYS Workers' Compensation Board
Disability Benefits Bureau
PO Box 9029, Endicott, NY 13761-9029

WCB.NY.GOV

New York State

NOTICE AND PROOF OF CLAIM FOR DISABILITY BENEFITS

How to request Disability Benefits

Do not submit this form prior to your first date of disability. You must submit your completed claim form within 30 calendar days of your first day of disability to avoid losing benefits. Keep a copy of all forms and documentations for your records.

1. If you are using this form because you became disabled **while employed** or you became disabled **within four (4) weeks after termination of employment**, your completed claim should be submitted to your employer or your last employer's insurance carrier. You may find your employer's disability insurance carrier on the Workers' Compensation Board's website, www.wcb.ny.gov, using Employer Coverage Search.
2. If you are using this form because you became **disabled after having been unemployed for more than four (4) weeks after termination of employment**, your completed claim **MUST** be mailed to: **Workers' Compensation Board, Disability Benefits Bureau, PO Box 9029, Endicott, NY 13761-9029**. If you answered "Yes" to question 13.B.4., please complete and attach Form DB-450.1.

Note: This form has a section to be filled out by your healthcare provider, and a section to be completed by your employer. Before providing the form to your employer, fill out your section and make a copy to keep.

- The health care provider is required to return the form to you with Part B completed within seven days. If there is a delay, you must wait to submit the form to your insurance carrier. If Part B is not complete (or has incomplete answers) there may be delay in the payment of benefits.
- Your employer is required to return the form to you with Part C completed within three business days. If there is a delay, you do not have to wait to proceed – you should send the form to your insurance carrier. They cannot deny your request for disability benefits solely because your employer failed to fill out their section.

Important to know:

You will receive a response within 18 days of your first day of disability leave or the employer or carrier's receipt of your completed claim, whichever is later. If your claim is rejected, you will receive either a Notice of Denial of Claim for Disability Benefits (Form DB-DEN) or a Notice of Total or Partial Rejection of Claim for Disability Benefits (Form DB-451). If you receive a Form DB-DEN, you will receive a form DB-451 with additional information within 45 days of your first day of disability leave or the employer or carrier's receipt of your completed claim, whichever is later.

If you do not receive a response within 18 days (or the Form DB-451 within 45 days) or if you have questions about your disability benefits claim, please call your employer's insurance carrier. For general information about disability benefits, please visit www.wcb.ny.gov or call the Board's Disability Benefits Bureau at (877) 632-4996.

Notice and Proof of Claim for Disability Benefits (Form DB-450) Instructions

PART A - EMPLOYEE INFORMATION (to be completed by the employee)

You must answer all questions in this part.

Question 9: Enter the best estimate of average gross weekly wage. Fill out the table using your gross wages from your last employer prior to disability. If you had more than one employer in the previous 8 weeks prior to your disability, include all wage information from those employer(s) as well.

Step 1: Add all gross wages received (before any deductions) over the last eight weeks prior to the first day of disability, including overtime and tips earned. (See Step 3 for instructions for calculating bonuses and/or commissions.)

Step 2: Divide the gross wages calculated in step one by eight (or the number of weeks worked if less than eight) to calculate the average weekly wage.

Step 3: If you received bonuses and/or commissions during the 52 weeks preceding the first day of disability, add the prorated weekly amount to the average weekly wage. To determine the prorated weekly amount, add all bonuses/commissions earned in the preceding 52 weeks and then divide by 52.

PART B - HEALTH CARE PROVIDER'S STATEMENT (to be completed by the health care provider)

The health care provider must fill in this statement completely and return it within seven days of receipt of this form.

PART C - EMPLOYER INFORMATION (to be completed by the employer)

The employer must complete and return to the employee within three business days of receipt.

Question 6: If wages were continued during disability, specify how wages were paid – through salary continuation, use of paid time off, sick time, etc.

Question 8: Enter the wages earned by the employee during the last eight weeks preceding the first day of disability. The gross amount paid is the employee's gross weekly pay, including any overtime and tips earned for that week, plus the weekly prorated amount of any bonus or commission received during the preceding 52 weeks. (For detailed steps, see Question 9 in the Part A instructions). Calculate the gross average weekly wage by adding up the gross amounts paid, and then dividing the total by eight (or number of weeks worked if less than eight).



Division of Human Rights

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

Discrimination based upon age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, sex, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, citizenship or immigration status, disability, domestic violence victim status, familial status, or marital status is prohibited by the New York State Human Rights Law. Sexual harassment or harassment based upon any of these protected classes also is prohibited.

ALL EMPLOYERS, EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES, LABOR ORGANIZATIONS AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAMS

Also prohibited: discrimination in employment on the basis of Sabbath observance or religious practices; hairstyles associated with race (also applies to all areas listed below); prior arrest or conviction record; predisposing genetic characteristics; pregnancy-related conditions.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities and pregnancy-related conditions including lactation 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.

Also covered: domestic workers; interns and nonemployees working in the workplace (for example temp or contract workers) are protected from all discrimination described above.

RENTAL, LEASE OR SALE OF HOUSING, LAND AND COMMERCIAL SPACE, INCLUDING ACTIVITIES OF REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALES PEOPLE

Also prohibited: discrimination on the basis of lawful source of income (for example housing vouchers, disability benefits, child support); familial status (families with children or being pregnant); prior arrest or sealed conviction; commercial boycotts or blockbusting.

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

Does not apply to:

- (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

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

PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION SUCH AS RESTAURANTS, HOTELS, HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL OFFICES, CLUBS, PARKS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Exception:

Age is not a covered classification relative to public accommodations Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities may also be required.

EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

All public schools and private nonprofit schools, at all education levels, excluding those run by religious organizations; also for-profit colleges, universities, licensed private career schools or certified English as a second language schools.

ADVERTISING AND APPLICATIONS RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT, REAL ESTATE, PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION AND CREDIT TRANSACTIONS MAY NOT EXPRESS ANY DISCRIMINATION

A complaint must be filed with the Division within one year for alleged acts of discrimination that occurred on or before 2/14/2024. Complaints for acts of discrimination that occur on or after 2/15/2024 may be filed within three years of the alleged act. A complaint alleging sexual harassment in employment that occurred on or after 08/12/2020 may be filed with three years of the alleged act. 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

1-888-392-3644

dhr.ny.gov

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

La ley de derechos humanos del estado de nueva york prohíbe la discriminación por edad, raza, credo, color, origen nacional, orientación sexual, estatus militar, sexo, embarazo, identidad o expresión de género, ciudadanía o estatus migratorio, discapacidad, estado como víctima de violencia doméstica, estado familiar, o estado civil. También está prohibido el acoso sexual o el acoso por cualquiera de estas clases protegidas.

TODOS LOS EMPLEADORES, AGENCIAS DE EMPLEO, ORGANIZACIONES DE TRABAJO Y PROGRAMAS DE CAPACITACIÓN DE APRENDICES

Asimismo, está prohibida la discriminación en el empleo sobre la base de la observancia del Shabat o prácticas religiosas; peinados asociados con la raza (también se aplica a las áreas enumeradas a continuación) arresto previo o antecedentes penales; las características genéticas predisponentes; las condiciones relacionadas con el embarazo.

Es posible que sea necesario hacer acomodos razonables para personas con discapacidades y condiciones relacionadas con el embarazo incluyendo lactación. Un arreglo razonable es una adaptación a un trabajo o entorno laboral que permita que una persona con discapacidad realice las tareas esenciales de un trabajo de manera razonable.

También están cubiertos: trabajadores domésticos; internos y no empleados cuales trabajan en el lugar de trabajo (por ejemplo trabajadores temporarios o contratantes) están protegidos de toda discriminación descrita arriba.

ALQUILER, ARRENDAMIENTO O VENTA DE VIVIENDA, TERRENO O ESPACIO COMERCIAL INCLUYENDO ACTIVIDADES DE AGENTE DE BIENES RAICES Y VENDEDORES

También esta prohibido: la discriminación a base de fuente de ingreso legal (por ejemplo vales, beneficios de discapacidad, manutención de niños); estado familiar (familias con niños o en estado de embarazo); arresto previo o condena sellada; boicot comercial o acoso inmobiliario.

También es posible que sea necesario realizar modificaciones y arreglos razonables para personas con discapacidades.

Excepciones:

- (1) alquiler de un apartamento en una casa para dos familias ocupada por el dueño
- (2) restricciones de todas las habitaciones en una vivienda para individuos del mismo sexo
- (3) alquiler de una habitación por parte del ocupante de una casa o apartamento
- (4) venta, alquiler o arrendamiento de alojamiento en una casa exclusivamente a personas mayores de 55 años y al cónyuge de dichas personas

TODAS TRANSACCIONES CREDITICIAS INCLUYENDO FINANCIAMIENTO PARA LA COMPRA, MANTENIMIENTO Y REPARACION DE VIVIENDAS

LUGARES DE ALOJAMIENTO PÚBLICO, COMO RESTAURANTES, HOTELES, HOSPITALES Y CONSULTORIOS MÉDICOS, CLUBS, PARQUES Y OFFICINAS DEL GOBIERNO.

Excepción:

La edad no es una clasificación cubierta respecto a los alojamientos públicos. Es posible que sea necesario realizar arreglos razonables para personas con discapacidades.

INSTITUCIONES EDUCATIVAS

Todas las escuelas publicas y escuelas privadas sin ánimo de lucro, en todos los niveles, excluyendo escuelas dirigidas por organizaciones religiosas; también están cubiertos: escuelas profesionales autorizadas o escuelas certificadas de inglés como segundo idioma.

PUBLICIDAD Y SOLICITUDES RELACIONADAS CON EL EMPLEO, LOS INMUEBLES, LOS LUGARES DE ALOJAMIENTO PÚBLICO Y LAS TRANSACCIONES CREDITICIAS NO DEBEN EXPRESAR NINGUN ACTO DISCRIMINATORIO

Para actos que ocurran el 14/02/2024 o antes, debe presentar su querella en un plazo de un año a partir del acto más reciente de presunta discriminación. Para actos realizados a partir del 15/02/2024, debe presentar su querella en un plazo de tres años posterior al acto más reciente de presunta discriminación. Una denuncia que alega acoso sexual en el empleo que ocurrió a partir del 12/08/2020 puede presentarse con tres años del presunto acto. Los servicios de la División se ofrecen sin cargo.

Si desea presentar una demanda ante el Tribunal Estatal, puede hacerlo dentro de los tres años desde que ocurriera la discriminación. No puede presentar una demanda ante la División y ante el Tribunal Estatal.

Se prohíben las represalias por presentar una demanda u oponerse a prácticas discriminatorias. Puede presentar una demanda ante la División si sufrió represalias.

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



Required Notice under Article 25-B of the Labor Law

**Attention All Employees, Contractors and Subcontractors:
You are Covered by the Construction Industry Fair Play Act**

The law says that you are an employee unless:

- You are free from direction and control in performing your job, **and**
- You perform work that is not part of the usual work done by the business that hired you, **and**
- You have an independently established business.

Your employer cannot consider you to be an independent contractor unless all three of these facts apply to your work.

It is against the law for an employer to misclassify employees as independent contractors or pay employees off the books.

Employee Rights: If you are an employee, you are entitled to state and federal worker protections. These include:

- Unemployment Insurance benefits, if you are unemployed through no fault of your own, able to work, and otherwise qualified,
- Workers' compensation benefits for on-the-job injuries,
- Payment for wages earned, minimum wage, and overtime (under certain conditions),
- Prevailing wages on public work projects,
- The provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, and
- A safe work environment.

It is a violation of this law for employers to retaliate against anyone who asserts their rights under the law. Retaliation subjects an employer to civil penalties, a private lawsuit or both.

Independent Contractors: If you are an independent contractor, **you must pay all taxes and Unemployment Insurance contributions required by New York State and Federal Law.**

Penalties for paying workers off the books or improperly treating employees as independent contractors:

- **Civil Penalty**
 - First offense: Up to \$2,500 per employee
 - Subsequent offense(s): Up to \$5,000 per employee
- **Criminal Penalty**
 - First offense: Misdemeanor - up to 30 days in jail, up to a \$25,000 fine and debarment from performing public work for up to one year.
 - Subsequent offense(s): Misdemeanor - up to 60 days in jail or up to a \$50,000 fine and debarment from performing public work for up to 5 years.

If you have questions about your employment status or believe that your employer may have violated your rights and you want to file a complaint, call the Department of Labor at (866) 435-1499 or send an email to dol.misclassified@labor.ny.gov. All complaints of fraud and violations are taken seriously. You can remain anonymous.

Employer Name:

IA 999 (09/16)

Division of Labor Standards

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 questions, write or call your nearest office, (listed below), of the:

**New York State Department of Labor
Division of Labor Standards**

Albany District
State Office Campus
Bldg. 12, Rm. 185A
Albany, NY 12226
(518) 457-2730

Garden City District
400 Oak Street
Suite 102
Garden City, NY 11530
(516) 794-8195

Syracuse District
333 East Washington St.
Room 121
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 428-4057

Bronx District
55 Hanson Place
11th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217
(212) 775-3719

New York City District
55 Hanson Place
11th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217
(212) 775-3880

White Plains District
120 Bloomingdale Road
White Plains, NY 10605
(914) 997-9521

Buffalo District
295 Main Street
Suite 914
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 847-7141

Rochester District
276 Waring Road
Room 104
Rochester, NY 14609
(585) 258-4550

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.



Attention Miscellaneous Industry Employees

Minimum Wage hourly rates effective 1/1/2025 – 12/31/2025

New York City

Large Employers (11 or more employees)

Minimum Wage \$16.50

Overtime after 40 hours \$24.75

Tipped workers \$16.50

Overtime after 40 hours \$24.75

Small Employers (10 or less employees)

Minimum Wage \$16.50

Overtime after 40 hours \$24.75

Tipped workers \$16.50

Overtime after 40 hours \$24.75

Long Island and Westchester County

Minimum Wage \$16.50

Overtime after 40 hours \$24.75

Tipped workers \$16.50

Overtime after 40 hours \$24.75

Remainder of New York State

Minimum Wage \$15.50

Overtime after 40 hours \$23.25

Tipped workers \$15.50

Overtime after 40 hours \$23.25

If you have questions, need more information or want to file a complaint, please visit

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.



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

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

Call: 988, press 1 Text: 838255

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: www.veteranscrisisline.net

Call: 988 Text: 988

Crisis Textline:

Text: 741741 Chat: crisistextline.org

NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH):

www.omh.ny.gov

NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS):

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
- Property tax exemptions: 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

New York State Civil Service Credits for Veterans Program:

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
- Veteran License Plate: dmv.ny.gov/plates/military-and-veterans

LEGAL SERVICES

Veterans Treatment Courts (VTC): ww2.nycourts.gov/courts/problem_solving/vet/courts.shtml

Email: ProblemSolving@courts.state.ny.us

NYS Defenders Association Veteran Defense Program:

<https://www.nysda.org/page/VDP>

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Website: veterans.ny.gov
Help Line: 1-888-838-7697
Email: 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
Help Line: 1-888-469-7365
Email: Ask.Vets@labor.ny.gov

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



Department of
Veterans' Services

WE ARE YOUR DOL



Department
of Labor



WE ARE YOUR DOL



Department
of Labor

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**

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**.

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.

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

Albany District

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

Binghamton District

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

Buffalo District

295 Main Street, Suite 905
Buffalo, New York 14203-2412

Garden City District

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

New York City District

Shirley A. Chisholm State
Office Building
55 Hanson Place, 12th Floor
Brooklyn, New York 11217-1523
Telephone: (212) 775-3554

Rochester District

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

Syracuse District

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

Utica District

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

White Plains District

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

POST CONSPICUOUSLY

WE ARE YOUR DOL



Department
of Labor

POLICY ON THE RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES TO EXPRESS BREAST MILK

in the Workplace

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

New York State Labor Law Section 206-c gives all employees in New York the right to express breast milk in the workplace. This law applies to all public and private employers in New York State, regardless of size or the nature of their business.

The New York State Department of Labor has developed the official policy on breast milk expression in the workplace as required by the law, ensuring that all employees know their rights and all employers understand their responsibilities. This policy is the minimum required standard, but employers are encouraged to include additional accommodations tailored to their workplace.

With the information provided below, employees will learn how much time they are allowed for breast milk expression, the kind of space employers are required to provide for breast milk expression, how to notify employers about the need to express breast milk in the workplace, and how to notify the Department of Labor if these rights are not honored.

Employers are required to provide this policy in writing to all employees when they are hired and again every year after. Employers are also required to provide the policy to employees as soon as they return to work following the birth of a child.

USING BREAK TIME FOR BREAST MILK EXPRESSION

Employers must provide thirty (30) minutes of paid break time for their employees to express breast milk when the employee has a reasonable need to express breast milk. Employees must be permitted to use existing paid break or meal time if they need additional time for breast milk expression beyond the paid 30 minutes. This time must be provided for up to three years following childbirth. Employers must provide paid break time as often as an employee reasonably needs to express breast milk. The number of paid breaks an employee will need to express breast milk is unique to each employee and employers must provide reasonable break times based on the individual. Employers are prohibited from discriminating in any way against an employee who chooses to express breast milk in the workplace.

An employer is prohibited from requiring an employee to work before or after their normal shift to make up for any time used as paid break time to express breast milk.

All employers must continue to follow existing federal and state laws, regulations, and guidance regarding mealtimes and paid break time regardless of whether the employee uses such time to express breast milk. For additional information regarding what constitutes a meal period or a break period under state and federal law, please see the following resources:

- NY Department of Labor Website on Day of Rest, Break Time, and Meal Periods:
dol.ny.gov/day-rest-and-meal-periods
- NY Department of Labor FAQs on Meal and Rest Periods:
dol.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/03/meal-and-rest-periods-frequently-asked-questions.pdf
- U.S. Department of Labor FLSA FAQ on Meal and Rest Periods:
dol.gov/agencies/whd/fact-sheets/22-flsa-hours-worked
- U.S. Department of Labor FLSA Fact Sheet on Compensation for Break Time to Pump Breast Milk:
dol.gov/agencies/whd/fact-sheets/73-flsa-break-time-nursing-mothers

While an employer cannot require that an employee works while expressing breast milk, Labor Law 206-c does not otherwise prevent an employee from voluntarily choosing to do so if they want to.

Paid breaks provided for the expression of breast milk must be 30 minutes. An employee must be allowed to use regular break or meal time to take a longer paid break if needed. Employees may also opt to take shorter paid breaks.

Employees who work remotely have the same rights to paid time off for the purpose of expressing breast milk, as all other employees who perform their work in-person.

MAKING A REQUEST TO EXPRESS BREAST MILK AT WORK

If an employee wants to express breast milk at work, they must give the employer reasonable advance notice, generally before returning to the workplace if the employee is on leave. This advance notice is to allow the employer time to find an appropriate location and adjust schedules if needed.

Employees wishing to request a room or other location to express breast milk in the workplace should do so by submitting a written request to their direct supervisor or individual designated by their employer for processing requests. Employers must respond to this request for a room or other location to express breast milk in writing within five days.

Employers must notify all employees in writing through email or printed memo when a room or other location has been designated for breast milk expression.

LACTATION ROOM REQUIREMENTS

In addition to providing the necessary time during the workday, employers must provide a private room or alternative location for the purpose of breast milk expression. **The space provided for breast milk expression cannot be a restroom or toilet stall.**

The room or other location must:

- Be close to an employee's work area
- Provide good natural or artificial light
- Be private – both shielded from view and free from intrusion
- Have accessible, clean running water nearby
- Have an electrical outlet (if the workplace is supplied with electricity)
- Include a chair
- Provide a desk, small table, desk, counter or other flat surface

There does not need to be a separate space for every nursing employee. An employer may dedicate a single room or other location for breast milk expression. Should there be more than one employee at a time needing access to a lactation room, an employer may dedicate a centralized location to be used by all employees.

Any space provided for breast milk expression must be close to the work area of the employee(s) using the space. The space must be in walking distance, and the distance to the location should not significantly extend an employee's needed break time.

Employers located in shared work areas, such as office buildings, malls and similar spaces may work together to establish and maintain a dedicated lactation room, as long as such space(s) are a reasonable distance from the employees using the room. Each employer utilizing this common space is individually responsible for making sure the room meets the needs of their employees.

If there is not a separate room or space available for lactation, an employer may use a vacant office or other available room on a temporary basis. This room must not be accessible to the public or other employees while an employee is using it for breast milk expression.

As a last resort, an available cubicle may be used for breast milk expression. A cubicle can only be used if it is fully enclosed with a partition and is not otherwise accessible to the public or other employees while being used for breast milk expression. The cubicle walls must be at least seven feet tall to insure the employee's privacy.

To ensure privacy, if the lactation room has a window, it must be covered with a curtain, blind or other covering.

In addition, the lactation space should have a door equipped with a functional lock. If this is not possible (such as in the case of a fully enclosed cubicle), as a last resort, an employer must utilize a sign advising the space is in use and not accessible to other employees or the public.

If the workplace has a refrigerator, employers must allow employees to use it to store breast milk. However, employers are not responsible for ensuring the safekeeping of expressed milk stored in any refrigerator in the workplace.

Employees are required to store all expressed milk in closed containers and bring milk home each evening.

The space designated for expressing breast milk must be maintained and clean at all times.

If an employer can demonstrate undue hardship in providing a space with the above requirements, the employer must still provide a room or other location - other than a restroom or toilet stall - that is in close proximity to the work area where an employee can express breast milk in privacy, that meets as many of the requirements as possible.

Undue hardship is defined in the statute as "causing significant difficulty or expense when considered in relation to the size, financial resources, nature, or structure of the employer's business." **However, an employer may not deny an employee the right to express breast milk in the workplace due to difficulty in finding a location.**

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR RESOURCES

If an employee believes that they are experiencing retaliation for expressing breast milk in the workplace, or that their employer is in violation of this policy, they should contact the New York State Department of Labor's Division of Labor Standards. Call us at **1-888-52-LABOR**, email us at LSAsk@labor.ny.gov, or visit our website at dol.ny.gov/breast-milk-expression-workplace to file a complaint.

A list of our offices is available at dol.ny.gov/location/contact-division-labor-standards.

Complaints are confidential.

FEDERAL RESOURCES

The federal PUMP Act went into effect in 2023, expanding protections for almost all employees expressing breast milk at work. Under the PUMP Act, any covered workers not provided with breaks and adequate space for up to a year after the birth of a child are able to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor or file a lawsuit against their employers. For more information, please visit dol.gov/agencies/whd/pump-at-work.

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:

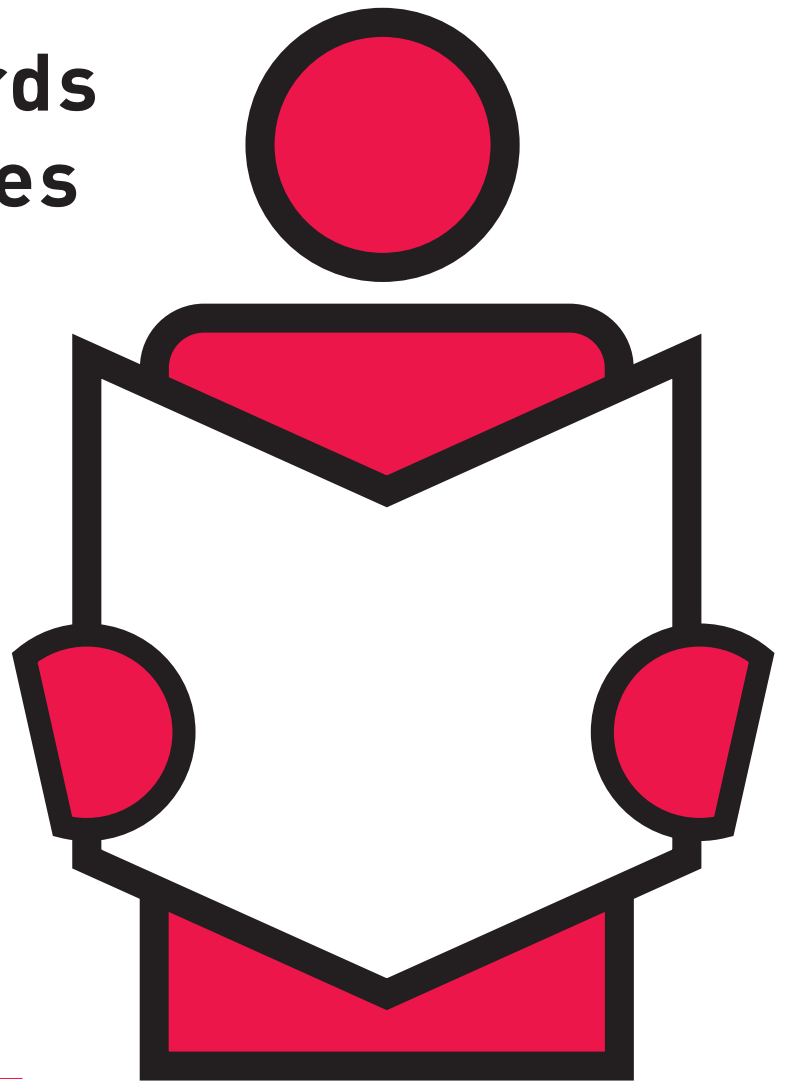
1. Under prior law, liquidated damages only covered up to 25% of the unpaid wages. Now, the law provides for liquidated damages on up to 100% of the unpaid wages. Once the Department of Labor issues an Order to Comply, it includes 100% liquidated damages, as well as other civil penalties and interest.
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.

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

STOP SEXUAL HARASSMENT ACT NOTICE

All employers are required to provide written notice of employees' rights under the Human Rights Law both in the form of a displayed poster **and** as an information sheet distributed to individual employees at the time of hire. This document satisfies the poster requirement.

The NYC Human Rights Law

The NYC 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.

Some 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 NYC 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 NYC 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 the NYC Commission on Human Rights. Call 212-416-0197 or visit NYC.gov/HumanRights to 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.

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



Notice to Employees

Employer Legal Name:

Address:

Employer Registration (ER) #:

Employees of this firm: you are covered by the New York State Unemployment Insurance Law.

- Your employer may not deduct from your wages for this purpose.
- **If you are laid off, work less than four days a week, are discharged, quit or have your hours reduced to 30 or less each week:**
 - **Get a “Record of Employment,” form from your employer. Keep it for your records to use if you file for Unemployment Insurance benefits.**
 - The “Record of Employment” form must have your employer’s name, registration number, and address where payroll records are kept.
- **To file an application for Unemployment Insurance:**
 - Call the Telephone Claims Center at (888) 209-8124 (translation services are available) or
 - Go to our website at www.labor.ny.gov
 - Hearing impaired individuals who have telephone Device for the Deaf (TTY/TDD) equipment may file a claim by calling a relay operator at (800) 662-1220 and requesting the operator call (888) 783-1370. Service at this number is provided only to callers using TDD equipment.

To Employer: You must post this poster conspicuously in each workplace.

Employers who utilize the fill-in version of this poster certify to the completeness and accuracy of the legal name, address and Employer Registration # displayed. For additional posters, write to the: New York State Department of Labor, Liability and Determination Section, 1220 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12226.

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 12226
(518) 457-2730

Bronx District

55 Hanson Place
11th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217
(212) 775-3719

New York City District

55 Hanson Place
11th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217
(212) 775-3880

Garden City District

400 Oak Street
Suite 102
Garden City, NY 11530
(516) 794-8195

Buffalo District

290 Main Street
Room 226
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 847-7141

Rochester District

276 Waring Road
Room 104
Rochester, NY 14609
(585) 258-4550

Syracuse District

333 East Washington Street
Room 121
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 428-4057

White Plains District

120 Bloomingdale Road
White Plains, NY 10605
(914) 997-9521