

COMPLIANCE ALERT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR RELEASES NEW WORKPLACE POSTER, ADDITIONAL FAQs

March 26, 2020

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), which became law on March 18, 2020, created several new obligations for employers with fewer than 500 employees. In addition to requiring applicable employers to pay Emergency Paid Sick Leave and Emergency Expanded FMLA Leave to qualifying individuals, the FFCRA requires these employers to post an FFCRA poster in the workplace. As directed under the FFCRA, the U.S. Department of Labor has created and issued [the required poster](#).

The DOL also released a set of [FAQs](#) to help employers better understand exactly what they need to do with the new poster. We summarize the FAQs below.

1. Where do I post this notice? Since most of my workforce is teleworking, where do I electronically “post” this notice?

Each covered employer must post a notice of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) requirements in a conspicuous place on its premises. An employer may satisfy this requirement by emailing or direct mailing this notice to employees, or posting this notice on an employee information internal or external website.

2. Do I have to post this notice in other languages that my employees speak? Where can I get the notice in other languages?

You do not have to post this notice in multiple languages; we are working to translate it into other languages.

3. Do I have to share this notice with recently laid-off individuals?

No, the FFCRA requirements explained on this notice apply only to current employees.

4. Do I have to share this notice with new job applicants?

No, the FFCRA requirements apply only to current employees. Employers are under no obligation to provide the notice of those requirements to prospective employees.

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5. Do I have to give notice of the FFCRA requirements to new hires?

Yes, if you hire a job applicant, you must convey this notice to them, either by email, direct mail, or by posting this notice on the premises or on an employee information internal or external website.

6. If my state provides greater protections than the FFCRA, do I still have to post this notice?

Yes, all covered employers must post this notice regardless of whether their state requires greater protections. The employer must comply with both federal and state law.

7. I am a small business owner. Do I have to post this notice?

Yes. All employers covered by the paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave provisions of the FFCRA (i.e., certain public sector employers and private sector employers with fewer than 500 employees) are required to post this notice.

8. How do I know if I have the most up-to-date notice? Will there be updates to this notice in the future?

The most recent version of this notice was issued on March 25, 2020. Check the [Wage and Hour Division's web site](#) for current notice requirements and to sign up for Key News Alerts.

9. Our employees must report to our main office headquarters each morning and then go off to work at our different worksite locations. Do we have to post this notice at all of our different worksite locations?

The notice needs to be displayed in a conspicuous place where employees can see it. If they are able to see it at the main office, it is not necessary to display the notice at your different worksite locations.

10. Do I have to pay for notices?

No. To obtain notices free of charge, contact the Department's Wage and Hour Division at 1-866-4-USWAGE (1-866-487-9243). Alternatively, you may download and print the notice yourself [here](#).

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11. I am running out of wall space. Can I put the required notices in a binder that I put on the wall?

No, you cannot put federal notices in a binder. Generally, employers must display federal notices in a conspicuous place where they are easily visible to all employees—the intended audience.

12. We have break rooms on each floor in our building. Do I have to post notices in each break room on each floor or can I just post them in the lunchroom?

If all of your employees regularly visit the lunchroom, then you can post all required notices there. If not, then you can post the notices in the break rooms on each floor or in another location where they can easily be seen by employees on each floor.

13. Our company has many buildings. Our employees report directly to the building where they work, and there is no requirement that they first report to our main office or headquarters prior to commencing work. Do I have to post this notice in each of our buildings?

Yes. Where an employer has employees reporting directly to work in several different buildings, the employer must post all required federal notices in each building, even if the buildings are located in the same general vicinity (e.g., in an industrial park or on a campus).

Conclusion

We expect more information to be flowing steadily out of Washington, D.C. as lawmakers, businesses and workers all try to cope with and address the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will continue to monitor developments, including the progress of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) through Congress, and will provide the latest updates as we receive them.

We express to all of our clients and friends our deep appreciation for our ongoing relationships, and we look forward to strengthening those ties as we all work through this shared adversity. Stay safe and be well.

EPIC Employee Benefits Compliance Services

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