

# Washington's Paid Family and Medical Leave program is starting soon.

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

**Starting January 2019**, Washington employees and many employers will begin investing in a statewide program that will provide paid leave to give or receive care.

When the benefits begin in 2020, Paid Family and Medical Leave will support Washingtonians, whether they are recovering from a serious illness or injury, caring for a new child or helping an aging parent. It means workers won't have to choose between a paycheck and caring for their health and their family.

### What it is:

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

### Who's eligible:

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

### Benefit details:

- Allows up to 12 weeks of paid leave, or up to 18 weeks in certain circumstances.
- Workers receive between \$100 and \$1,000 per week, depending on income.

### Your contribution:

To build this insurance program, on January 1, 2019 you may see a premium set aside from your paycheck, like you see for Medicare. The total premium is 0.4% of your wages and may be shared between an employee and employer. For an employee earning \$50,000 a year, the maximum premium is just \$2.44 a week.

Visit [paidleave.wa.gov](http://paidleave.wa.gov) to calculate your contribution and learn more about how you can take time for care.

Washington  
**Paid Family &  
Medical Leave**