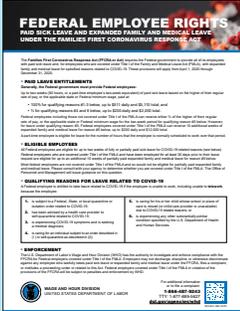




# Explaining New COVID-19 Leave for Federal Employees

*What to know if you are sick from COVID-19 or caring for someone who is.*



The Department of Labor recently released a poster entitled “Federal Employee Rights” that many federal employees have questions about. AFGE is providing the following information to help federal employees make sense of the new policies.

## What's New

- There is only one new category of fully paid leave for federal employees in the executive branch. This is two extra weeks of paid sick leave in addition to the amount of paid sick leave you earn each year.
- In order to qualify for the additional paid sick leave, you must be in one or more of the following situations:
  - ▶ You are under a federal, state, or local quarantine or isolation order connected to COVID-19 because you have been exposed to COVID-19. This is NOT the same as a “stay at home” or “shelter in place” order from your governor or mayor. It is directly related to your personal exposure to COVID-19.
  - ▶ You are told by a health care provider to self-quarantine because they think you have contracted or have been exposed to COVID-19.
  - ▶ You have the symptoms of COVID-19 and are trying to get diagnosed.
  - ▶ You are caring for an individual subject to a quarantine or isolation order connected to COVID-19 or are experiencing flu-like symptoms.
- This benefit is not an entitlement; agencies can exclude health care workers and first responders at their discretion.

## COVID-19 Leave Is On Top Of Your Regular Paid Leave!

You can take this new leave instead of, or in addition to, taking days of paid annual leave or sick leave if you meet the above criteria. Even if you had already used all your accrued paid leave, you are eligible for this new paid COVID-19 leave.

**Contact your local union with any questions!**