

CIRCULAR

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

ORIGINATING

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EFFECTIVE EXPIRATION SUPERSEDES: N/A

DATE: 07-01-25 DATE: 06-30-26

SUBJECT: FAMILY LEAVE DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENTS FOR STATE EMPLOYEES

ATTENTION: ALL DEPARTMENTS

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: ZACHARY.BURKHALTER@TREAS.NJ.GOV

I. PURPOSE

Under the current Family Leave Insurance program, eligible NJ employees may receive up to 85% of their average weekly wages for up to 12 weeks. A line item appropriation will now supplement eligible bonding leave as defined under N.J.A.C.12:21-1.2, provided the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DLWD) determines that the employee is eligible to receive family leave insurance benefits and the employee is receiving benefits for their position paid through the State of New Jersey Centralized Payroll. The employee will be granted a differential payment of their weekly State salary less the weekly benefit rate being paid by the DLWD, ensuring the employee receives a combined 100% of their base State salary. The differential payment only applies to State employees paid by Centralized Payroll (CP).

II. <u>DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENT PROCESS</u>

The DLWD will send a weekly file to CP with the relevant employee benefit payment information. CP will then calculate the differential money owed to the employee and issue payment on the next available supplemental pay period. Please note, there may be a lag in the employee receiving their differential payment based on when the data is received by CP from the DLWD. An informational proof will be e-mailed to any agency payrolls with employees receiving a differential payment. No additional action will be required by the individual agency payroll offices.

The differential is calculated by taking what an employee would earn in a week when being paid by CP, less the weekly benefit being paid by DLWD. In an instance where an employee receives less than a week of pay from DLWD, a pro-rata share of the differential payment will be issued. *If an employee's DLWD leave benefit exceeds their weekly State salary, they would not be entitled to any differential payment.* These payments will **not** be charged to the agency's salary account, but instead, they will be charged to a designated appropriation within the DLWD. An example of the calculation being done by CP is outlined below:

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Example:

An employee who is currently in a title in range A18, step 10, would have a salary of \$79,332.50 from the salary table effective 7/12/25. The employee began their eligible leave on 7/12/25 and will be receiving the full \$1,081.00 per week from the DLWD. They would normally receive \$1,519.78 (annual salary [\$79,332.50] / current FY fiscal days [261] = daily rate [\$303.956] * number of work days in a week [5]) per week from CP. The weekly DLWD rate is then reduced from this amount to come up with the differential payment: \$1,519.78 - \$1,081.00 = \$438.78.

If the same employee were to start their eligible leave on 7/15/25, only receiving four days from DLWD, the percent of the week they were paid for by DLWD will be applied to the differential amount calculated above. Since a week of pay from DLWD is on a seven-day pay scale, if an employee receives four days they will get 57.14% (4/7) of the differential amount equaling \$250.72 (\$438.78 x 57.14%).

OTHER NOTABLES

The process for an employee applying for NJ Family Leave Insurance (NJ FLI) bonding leave remains unchanged and the employee should continue to work with their payroll office regarding the application and approval process for such leave. Employees eligible for the differential payments will not be required to take any new or additional steps in order to receive payment. The differential payments will (1) be issued biweekly on the supplemental payroll following receipt of the DLWD benefit information with only standard payroll deductions being withheld and (2) paid to the employee in the same manner that the employee received their regular pay when on paid status (i.e., direct deposit, cash pay card or paper check). No health benefit, dental, or pension deductions will be withheld from the payment as is currently the case when an employee takes NJ FLI. In addition, the process of pre-paying for health benefits and buying back any pensionable time upon return will continue to be the same. The process for inputting the leave into eCATs will also remain the same. Please note that the process for the benefit paid under the Family Leave Insurance program, which is approved and issued separately by the DLWD, will also remain unchanged.

Acting Director