RI: Unemployment and Paid Sick Leave Benefits for Child Care Providers

Below are Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Paid Sick Leave options for Child Care Providers and Staff working in Center-based care facilities across Rhode Island during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please note, the following options are scheduled to end on December 31, 2020:

- UI for COVID-related matters
- Federal Paid Sick Days
- Federal Emergency Paid Leave

You will still be able to access UI for non-COVID related matters and RI Paid Sick Days after 12/31/2020.


Unemployment Insurance (UI)

You may be eligible for UI if any of the following scenarios apply to you:

- Your center has laid you off
- Your center has reduced your hours
- Your center or classroom has temporarily closed due to COVID-19 (i.e. staff/children need to quarantine)
- You need to quarantine after potential exposure to COVID-19
- You are caring for a family member with COVID-19
- You have ‘good cause’ to leave your center or refuse to return to your center, which includes:
  - You have tested positive for COVID-19
  - Your doctor recommends you stay home because you are high risk
  - You need to care for children due to COVID-19 school/childcare closures

Duration and Pay: If you are eligible for UI, you can receive up to 39 weeks of partial pay.

Apply: online at- dlt.ri.gov/covid19/

Paid Sick Days

You may be eligible for Paid Sick Days if you need a few hours or days off for any of the following scenarios:

- You have tested positive for COVID-19, are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, or seeking a COVID-19 diagnoses
- You are quarantining
- You are caring for an ill family member
- You need to care for children due to COVID-19 school/childcare closures
Duration and Pay: If you are eligible for Paid Sick Days, you can receive up to 120 hours/15 days (40 hours/5 days from RI’s state Paid Sick days and 80 hours/10 days from the Federal Paid Sick days) of full or two-thirds of your regular pay.

Need more information?
- For more information on RI Paid Sick Days see the Department of Labor and Training’s Factsheet
- For more information or questions on Federal Paid Sick days call the RI office for the US Department of Labor (401-528-4669)

Apply: through your employer.

Federal Emergency Paid Leave

You may be eligible for Federal Emergency Paid Sick Leave if you need weeks off for the following scenario:
- You need to care for children due to COVID-19 school/childcare closures

Duration and Pay: If you are eligible for Emergency Paid Sick Leave, you can receive up to 12 weeks of two-thirds of your regular pay.

Need more information?
- For more information or questions on Federal Paid Sick days call the RI office for the US Department of Labor (401-528-4669)

Apply: through your employer.