



# Leave of absence

## *Frequently asked questions*

### TYPES OF LEAVE

#### **I will be taking a medical leave. Do I have to take a leave under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) as well?**

If you are enrolled in a disability plan and you take a medical leave of absence because you are ill, injured, or pregnant, you will qualify for partial **income replacement**. Employees in California have Voluntary Disability Insurance (VDI), and employees outside California have short-term disability (STD) if they have not opted out. VDI and STD provide income during a leave of absence.

In addition, if you have been with Lam for more than one year and have worked more than 1,250 hours in the past 12 months, your leave will qualify under FMLA. FMLA provides you **job protection** while on leave of absence; it does not provide an income replacement benefit. FMLA is automatically applied concurrently with a medical leave.

Lam complies with all federal, state, and local regulations. In some cases, Lam provides leave opportunities that are more generous than required by law.

#### **My spouse and I just had a baby. What type of leave can I take?**

Lam provides employees with parental bonding leave to care for and bond with a newborn. Your leave may qualify for job protection under FMLA if you have been with Lam for more than one year and have worked more than 1,250 hours in the past 12 months. You may qualify for paid family leave (PFL) of up to 16 weeks if you are enrolled in Voluntary Disability Insurance (VDI, for California employees) or short-term disability (STD, for employees outside California), which will provide income replacement benefits during your leave.

#### **Can the 16 weeks of paid parental bonding leave be taken in smaller chunks?**

If you are a Lam employee, you can take your leave intermittently—in increments of at least one week at a time—up to the baby's first birthday or one year after foster/adoption placement. If you are a Silfex employee, you can take bonding leave for 16 consecutive weeks or in eight-week increments up to two times. When calling TRISTAR, you will need to provide the schedule of your intermittent leave so the days are tracked correctly.

#### **Can I take a leave to care for a family member such as a sick sibling, grandparent, or domestic partner?**

Under FMLA, a covered family member is a spouse, child, or parent. Some states have a different definition that may include siblings, grandparents, and domestic partners. Check to see how your state defines an eligible family member. If the family member is not a covered dependent under its family leave laws, you can apply for a personal leave, which may be granted at the discretion of your manager. Intermittent leave to care for a sick family member can be taken in increments of at least one hour at a time.

## JOB PROTECTION AND PAY WHILE ON LEAVE

### What job protections do I have while on leave?

Lam complies with all federal, state, and local regulations. In some cases, Lam provides leave opportunities that are more generous than required by law. For example, Lam may waive the requirements for length of service with the company or grant a longer leave under some circumstances. At a minimum, the following laws provide job protection for eligible employees.

- **Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA):** Employees with at least 12 months of service and who have worked 1,250 hours in the past 12 months are eligible for up to 12 weeks of job-protected leave as the result of sickness, injury, or a pregnancy-related disability, or to care for a family member or bond with a new child.
- **Pregnancy Disability Leave (PDL):** Employees in California who take a pregnancy-related disability leave are entitled to up to four months of job-protected leave.
  - PDL and FMLA run concurrently for an employee who takes a pregnancy disability leave, and they start on the first day of leave. At the end of an employee's period(s) of pregnancy disability leave (usually six weeks after a normal delivery, eight weeks for a cesarean section), a CFRA-eligible employee may receive a CFRA job-protected leave of up to 12 weeks to bond with the newborn.
- **California Family Rights Act (CFRA):** California employees with at least 12 months of service and who have worked 1,250 hours in the past 12 months are eligible for up to 12 weeks of job-protected leave as the result of sickness or injury, or to care for a family member, or to bond with a new child.
- **Oregon Family Leave Act (OFLA):** Oregon employees with at least 180 days of service who average at least 25 hours per week during the 180 days before their leave are eligible for up to 12 weeks of job-protected leave as the result of a serious health condition, to care for a sick family member, or to bond with a new child. For bonding with a new child, the 25-hours-per-week requirement is waived.

### How do I get paid while on leave of absence?

Employees in California have Voluntary Disability Insurance (VDI), and employees outside California have short-term disability (STD) if they have not opted out. These plans provide partial income replacement benefits during a leave of absence.

- **For your own disability** (including pregnancy), you'll receive disability payments through TRISTAR of 75% of your weekly earnings up to a weekly maximum of \$4,800. The disability benefit you receive is not taxable.
- **To care for a family member or to bond with a new child**, you'll receive income replacement under paid family leave (PFL). TRISTAR will provide your PFL payments at 100% of your base weekly earnings, up to a weekly maximum of \$4,800 starting on the first day of your leave. This benefit is taxable, and you will receive a W-2 at the end of the year from TRISTAR.
- **If you live in Colorado or Oregon**, your income-replacement payments will be a combination of the state-required paid family and medical leave (PFML) benefits through The Standard and additional STD payments through TRISTAR as needed to bring you to the amounts listed above. Learn more about PFML in [Colorado](#) and [Oregon](#).

## MECHANICS OF TAKING A LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### **Must I use all my accrued PTO before taking paid family leave (PFL), or can I retain my accrued PTO during PFL?**

No. PFL benefits begin day one, and there is no need to use PTO. Note that you will not accrue more PTO while on leave.

### **What should I enter on my timecard when I go on leave?**

You do not need to enter hours on your timecard for your leave. The Benefits team will update your status in Employee Connect (EC) and notify Payroll.

### **How are my benefits affected during my leave?**

You are responsible for paying the employee contributions for these benefits during your leave:

- Health coverage
- Life insurance
- Accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) insurance
- Short-term disability (STD), long-term disability (LTD), and California Voluntary Disability Insurance (VDI), as applicable
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- Group legal services

Here's how other benefits will be affected:

- Paid time off (PTO) accrual stops once you stop receiving a Lam paycheck.
- You are not entitled to holiday pay for a holiday that falls during your leave.
- For leaves greater than 30 days, your bonus, if any, will be prorated.
- You are not eligible to contribute to your 401(k) or to participate in the ESPP during your leave of absence. If you have a 401(k) loan, your loan payments will cease, and your loan will be re-amortized when you return to work.
- If you are enrolled in the ESPP and your leave extends beyond 90 days, in most cases your participation in the ESPP will cease on the 91st day. You can rejoin the ESPP during the next enrollment period after you return to work.
- Your contributions to a Health Care or Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (FSA) will stop while you are on leave, but you will be allowed to submit eligible expenses. Participation will resume when you return to full-time work.
- Your contributions and Lam's contributions to a Health Savings Account (HSA) will stop while you are on leave, but you will be allowed to submit eligible expenses. Participation will resume when you return to full-time work.

### **How will my benefit payments be handled while I am on leave?**

You are responsible for paying the contributions that are normally deducted from your paycheck.

You will receive information in the mail from our benefits administrator, PlanSource, detailing the amount you need to pay. Use the payment coupons enclosed in the packet when submitting your payment.

## **Will I still have access to Lam’s systems, such as SAP, email, and The Point, when I go on leave?**

As soon as you go on leave of absence, your SAP access will be disabled, and you will not be able to access SAP, Lam’s intranet, or your timecard. You will continue to have access to your email, but it will be automatically disabled when no activity is detected for more than four weeks. You are allowed to take your company cell phone and computer, but if you anticipate an extended leave of absence, we recommend you leave them with your manager.

## **Can I work remotely while on leave?**

No. You should not perform any work while on a leave of absence. If your manager contacts you about work while you are on leave, you can remind them of this policy.

## **What should I do when I am ready to return to work after my leave of absence?**

Contact TRISTAR one week before you return to work, and follow up with an email to the Benefits Help Desk at [benefits@lamresearch.com](mailto:benefits@lamresearch.com). Providing this advance notice will help ensure your systems access is restored within 1–2 days of your return.

You must provide TRISTAR certification from your doctor that you are released to return to work if you are on a medical leave. If you have work restrictions, TRISTAR will notify your manager, who will determine if a reasonable accommodation is possible.

## **What if I need more time off than I had originally planned?**

You are expected to return to work on the date you indicated when you filed your leave of absence with TRISTAR. If you find that you need more time, you must notify your manager and TRISTAR at least one week before the end of your scheduled leave. If you are on a medical leave, your doctor will need to give you an extension notice. If you are on a personal leave, you must apply for an extension, which may or may not be granted at the discretion of your manager. Failure to return to work at the end of a leave of absence without an extension will be considered job abandonment.

## **Where can I get more information?**

Visit [LamBenefits.com](http://LamBenefits.com) for more information about [leaves of absence](#) and [disability](#).

You’ll find these resources on the LOA page:

- [Comprehensive guides](#) for medical, maternity, parental bonding, and family care leave
- [Detailed diagrams](#) for job protection and income replacement during each type of leave
- Paid family and medical leave (PFML) information for [Colorado](#) and [Oregon](#) employees