

PREGNANT WORKERS FAIRNESS ACT (PWFA)

WHAT IS PWFA?

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) is a federal law that requires covered employers to provide "reasonable accommodations" to a qualified worker's known limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, unless the accommodation will cause the employer an "undue hardship." An undue hardship is defined as causing significant difficulty or expense.

A **"reasonable accommodation"** means a change in the work environment or how things are usually done in order to remove work-related barriers.

WHAT ARE SOME POSSIBLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PREGNANT WORKERS?

- Schedule changes or time off to go to health care appointments
- Extra bathroom breaks
- A chair or stool to sit on while working
- The ability to telework full or part-time
- A private place to pump breast milk
- Leave to recover from childbirth
- Breaks to eat and drink
- Light duty



WHAT OTHER FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT LAWS MAY APPLY TO PREGNANT WORKERS?

Other laws that apply to workers affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, include:



- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits employment discrimination based on sex, pregnancy, or other protected categories (enforced by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC))
- The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) which prohibits employment discrimination based on disability (enforced by the EEOC)
- The Family and Medical Leave Act which provides unpaid leave for certain workers for pregnancy and to bond with a new child (enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor)
- The PUMP Act which provides nursing mothers a time and private place to pump at work (enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor)

Learn more at www.EEOC.gov/Pregnancy-Discrimination