

Blood Donation Notice

Section 202-j of the Labor Law mandates that employers provide leave time to employees for the purpose of donating blood. The two types of blood donation leaves are Off-Premises Blood Donation and Donation Leave Alternatives.

Compensation for Leave - Leave granted to employees for off-premises blood donation is not required to be paid leave. Leave taken by employees for donation leave alternatives shall be paid leave given without requiring the employee to use accumulated vacation, personal, sick, or other already existing leave time.

Off-Premises Donation - Employees taking leave for off-premises blood donation shall be permitted at least one leave period per calendar year of three hours duration during the employee's regular work schedule. Employers are not required to allow off-premises blood donation leave under Labor Law Section 202-j to accrue if it is not used during the calendar year. Leave granted to employees for off-premises blood donation is not required to be paid leave.

Donation Leave Alternatives - Leave for blood donation leave alternatives shall be given twice per calendar year and it shall be paid leave given without use of vacation, personal, sick, or other already existing leave accruals. Under the Donation Leave Alternatives, the donating of blood should be at a convenient time and place set by the employer. The time shall not be a time outside an employee's normal work hours, nor shall the location be not a reasonable travel distance for an employee. If an employee provides prompt notice that he or she is not or was not able to participate in a blood donation leave alternative because the employee is or was on leave (such as sick or vacation leave), and if as a result the employer has not provided the employee with the opportunity to participate in at least two blood leave alternatives during working hours in a calendar year, the employer must either make available another such alternative to the employee, or allow the employee to take leave to make an off-premises donation. Employees donating blood during a blood donation leave alternative must be allowed sufficient leave time necessary to donate blood, to recover, including partaking nourishment after donating, and to return to work.