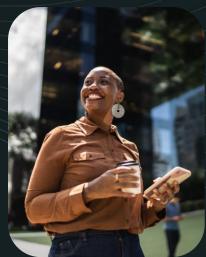
#### **NEWFRONT**

# The San Francisco Paid Parental Leave Ordinance (PPLO)







2024 Edition



Presented by: Brian Gilmore | Lead Benefits Counsel, VP

# Guide Topics

# The San Francisco Paid Parental Leave Ordinance (PPLO)

### Complying with the City's Unique New Child Bonding Supplemental ("Top Up") Compensation Rules

- San Francisco became the first city to require employer-paid parental leave in 2017 by integrating with the state's Paid Family Leave (PFL) program
- The SF PPLO requires covered employers to supplement the amount already available through California PFL for new child bonding
- The basics of the PPLO are a straightforward measure to ensure employees on new child bonding leave receive full pay (up to a cap) for the duration of the leave
- Certain aspects of the PPLO are rather complex particularly the interaction with CA State Disability Insurance (SDI) for new birthing mothers prior to transitioning to PFL for new child bonding leave

#### **San Francisco PPLO Topics for Discussion**

- Covered Employers: Based on worldwide employee count and initial effective date was by size
- Covered Employees: Which SF employees are eligible for PPLO supplemental compensation
- PPLO Supplemental Compensation: Which employees qualify, and the benefits they must receive
- Administration: The PPLO paperwork and calculations to for employees on new child bonding leave
- The Other Stuff: Examples, pain points, strategies, exemptions, notices, handbooks, penalties, more!



### 01

Covered Employers



# PPLO Covered Employers

# All Employers with 20+ Employees Worldwide are Subject to the SF PPLO

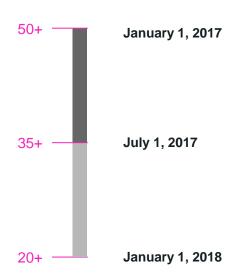
#### Why It Matters

- Employers that are not PPLO covered employers do not need to comply with the PPLO
- Unlike the HCSO, there is no requirement that employers be required to obtain a business registration certificate with the City
- Bottom line: All employers with 20+ employees must comply for SF PPLO covered employees

Large Employers Were Required to Comply as of 1/1/17:

Number of employees regardless of location

(Includes entire controlled group)





## 02

Covered Employees



# Covered Employees

#### Why It Matters

- Any person (including part-time or temp) employed by a Covered
   Employer who meets all four requirements is a Covered Employee
- Covered employers are required to satisfy the supplemental compensation requirements only for covered employees
- If the individual is not a covered employee, the employer will not have to top up their PFL pay under PPLO



Commenced employment with the Covered Employer at least **180 days** prior to the start date of the leave.

 Re-hires must start over upon gap in employment of one year.



Performs at least 8 hours of work per week in San Francisco.

Includes work from home!



At least **40% of the employee's total weekly hours** for the employer are in San Francisco.

 Different from SF Health Care Security Ordinance (HCSO)



Eligible for California Paid Family Leave for **new child bonding**.

 Note that period of PDL/SDI for birthing mother prior to receiving PFL does not count



# The 8-Hour and 40% Rule Specifics

Special rules apply where the employee's hours fluctuate from week to week to apply an average.

#### Three-month lookback period average

- → Will apply an average of the employee's weekly hours for the covered employer over the threemonth period immediately preceding the start of the PFL new child bonding period
- → Will use the three monthly pay periods, six biweekly or semi-monthly pay periods, or 12 weekly pay periods to calculate the average

#### Leave rules

- → If the employee was on leave during any weeks in that three-month look-back period, those pay periods will not be counted in determining the average
- → Rather, will use prior active pay periods to complete the three-month look back
- However, in no case will the look-back consider pay periods earlier than 26 weeks prior to the PFL period



## 03

# Qualifying Leave

New Child Bonding



# PPLO Applies to Parental Leave

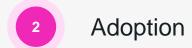
Note: PPLO Does Not Apply for All forms of CA PFL

#### Why It Matters

- Employers are required to provide PPLO supplemental compensation only for these new child bonding leaves
- Other leaves covered by PFL (e.g., to care for a seriously ill family member) do not qualify for PPLO

Three events where SF PPLO applies as qualifying leave:





Foster Care Placement



04

# Payment Amount

PPLO Supplemental Compensation



# 2024 Maximum PPLO Supplemental Compensation Amounts

The maximum PPLO benefit is based off the maximum weekly PFL benefit at \$1,620 in 2024.

Calculation Excel spreadsheet (resources): <a href="https://sf.gov/information/paid-parental-leave-ordinance">https://sf.gov/information/paid-parental-leave-ordinance</a>

	2024 Maximum Weekly Benefits	2024 Maximum Total Benefits
California PFL Payment Amount	Maximum Weekly PFL Benefit \$1,620 (\$153,164* / 52 x 55%)	Maximum PFL Benefit x 8 \$12,960
San Francisco PPL Payment Amount	Maximum Weekly PPLO Amount \$1,080 (\$1,620 / 60% - \$1,620)	Maximum PPLO Amount x 8 \$8,640
Maximum Total Payment Amount (PFL+PPL)	\$2,700 Per Week of New Child Bonding Leave	\$21,600 Per 8-Weeks of New Child Bonding Leave

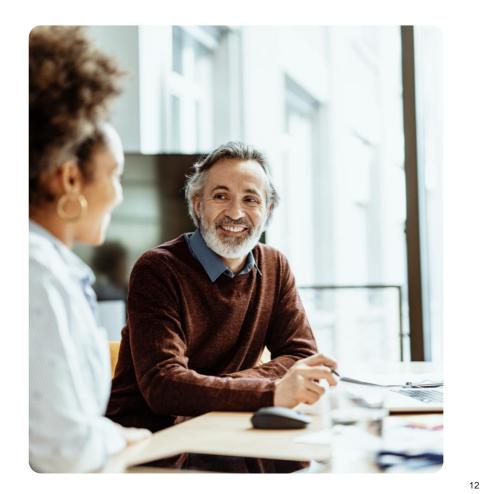
\*Note: As of 2024, there is no more payroll tax cap for CA SDI/PFL. For more details: California SDI/PFL Payroll Tax Eliminated in 2024



# Who Pays?



SF PPL amounts are paid by the **Employer** 





# Employer Pays for SF PPL – Different from CA PFL!

Unlike the CA PFL structure, SF PPLO requires the employer to pay the employee during the leave.

#### **California Paid Family Leave**

Paid by the Employee/CA EDD

#### **Specifics:**

- Funded by employee payroll tax of 1.1% of wages (wage ceiling eliminated as of 2024)
- Payroll tax funds both SDI and PFL
- Employees apply to CA Employment Development Department (EDD) for PFL benefits
- Benefits are paid through the EDD (not the employer)

#### San Francisco Paid Parental Leave

Paid by the Employer

#### **Specifics:**

- There is no employee payroll tax or other revenue source for SF PPL
- Rather the employer is directly responsible for making PPL payments
- The PPL is therefore both funded and paid by the employer
- Employers need to budget on their own for this expense



# Determining Payment Amount – The SF PPL Form

Available at: https://sf.gov/information/paid-parental-leave-ordinance

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRAM	NCISCO		LONDON N. BREED, MAYOR			0=6: ==		Castian	4 15		4h				
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICE OF LABOR STANDARDS ENFORCEMENT PATRICK MULLIGAN, DIRECTOR  SAN FRANCISCO PAID PARENTAL LEAVE FORM				eithe	Only complete Section 4 if you have more than one employer  Section 4. Multiple Employers. If you have more than one employer, you must complete either Option A or Option B of this section, or your employers will not be required to provid Supplemental Compensation under the PPLO.										
				Supp	iementai	Compe	isation t	inder u	ie PPLC	<i>.</i>					
Complete one form for ea complete Sections 1, 2, and Section 4 on page 2.	d 3 of this form. If you	ou have only one emp ou have more than o	ne employer, fill out		n A: Ask and ente							wages	and rep	orted tip	s, if
Section 1. Employment	Information				Emp	loyer		Norma	al Gross V	/eekly Wa	ages	Ave	erage We	ekly Tips	
Employee				1											
Name/Address:				2											$\neg$
				3											
(Please prin	it)	Street	City State Zip	the 6	n B: For bi-week	ly, 6 sen	ni-month	ly or 12	weekly	pay pe	riods tha	at imme	diately p	recede	your
(Name)				do n	period. ot include n you we	those p	pay peri	ods in t	he grid.	Instead	d, include	le earliei	r pay pe	eriods du	uring
Section 2. Employer Notification Check all that apply:	fication. For promp	t payment of benefits	s, select both options.	Emp	oyer 1			Emplo	yer 2			Employ	er 3		
Option 1.   I am submitting	a copy of my EDD	Notice of Computation	on to my	Pay Per	od Start Date	Wages	Tips	Pay Period	Start Date	Wages	Tips	Pay Period	Start Date	Wages	Tips
employer(s); and/ or		•	1	5.0.100.0	wages	- iips	1	Start Batte	vroges	Tips	1	Startbatte	wages	1100	
				2				2				2			
Option 2.   I have checked the box on my EDD Claim for Paid Family Leave (DE 2501F) granting permission to disclose my benefit payment to my employer(s).		3		_		3			<u> </u>	3		_	_		
		5	+	_		5			_	5		_	_		
Section 3. Reimbursemer	nt Agreement. In or	rder to receive Suppl	emental Compensation	6				6				6			
under the San Francisco Paid Parental Leave Ordinance (PPLO), employees must agree in writing to reimburse their employers if they voluntarily separate from employment within 90 days of the end of their leave period. Failure to sign this agreement renders you ineligible to receive Supplemental Compensation under the PPLO. See S.F. Police Code Sec.		7				7				7					
		8	+	-	_	8			-	8		_	-		
			10	+			10				10		_	<del>                                     </del>	
3300H.4(e).]	unice code dec.	11				11				11					
350011.4(6).j			12				12				12				
l, Supplemental Compensation Francisco Paid Parental Le 90 days from the end of my in writing.	on received from any ave Ordinance if I vo	oluntarily separate fro	(s) under the San om employment within	true	lare unde	ct.	, , ,	,					,	mation is	s
5		D-t		Emp	loyee Sig	gnature:_					_	Date: _			_
Employee Signature:		Date:		Your	employe	r has the	e right to	reques	st proof	of wages	a from o	ther em	ployers	listed ab	ove.
Employer Signature:		Date:			SL	JBMIT A	COMPI	LETED	FORM	TO EAC	CH OF Y	OUR E	MPLOY	ERS	
If you only have one emp	loyer, this form is	complete.													



# Employer PPL Form Responsibilities

1	Employers are encouraged to provide the PPL Form to all new SF employees
2	Employers are required to provide the PPL Form to all employees upon notice of potential qualifying leave  • Must be provided within a reasonable period of time after notice  • Includes notice of expecting newborn, adopted or foster child  • Also includes upon any inquiry by employee of PPLO rights
3	<ul> <li>Must provide translated versions of the PPL Form where 5% of workforce speak non-English language</li> <li>Includes any facility or establishment of employer</li> <li>Office of Labor Standards Enforcement (OLSE) has forms available in Spanish and Chinese</li> <li>Employer's responsibility for other languages</li> </ul>
4	For <b>intermittent leave</b> , employer must provide PPL form before each period of new child bonding PFL leave



# Completing the PPL Form: Two Employee Options

Employer must have information from the Employment Development Department (EDD) that describes the employee's PFL benefit amount to determine appropriate PPL amount. The PPLO provides two options.

The OLSE strongly recommends that the employee choose both options for fastest payment.

### Option 1:

Provide the EDD "Notice of Computation" Form

#### Specifics:

- When employee applies for PFL, EDD will send this form to employee (Form DE 429D)
- Sets forth expected weekly benefit amount for duration of PFL
- Failure to choose this option may delay payment because employer would be required to contact EDD (EDD may not respond promptly)

#### Option 2:

Grant Permission to Disclose PFL Benefit to Employer

#### **Specifics:**

- "Claim for Paid Family Leave" form includes option for EDD to disclose benefit amount to employer (Form DE 2501F)
- Employer must then reach out to EDD to request benefit amount
- Failure to choose this option may result in delay payment because employer cannot access benefit information from the EDD



### PPL Calculation Instructions

#### Available at: https://sf.gov/information/paid-parental-leave-ordinance

Instructions for Calculating Supplemental Compensation Instructions for Calculating Supplemental Compensation For an Employee with a Single Employer With No Tips For an Employee with a Single Employer With No Tips As the only employer, you must pay Supplemental Compensation to your Covered Employees receiving Sum each row in the final column to determine the average weekly wage amounts. For weekly and benefits for child bonding under the California Paid Family Leave Program. Your employee is required by bi-weekly sums, divide by 12 and for semi-monthly divide by 13. law to notify you if they have more than one employer. This average weekly wage is the employee's normal weekly wage. These instructions will help you calculate the Supplemental Compensation amount owed to the employee. Weekly pay: Terms: Pay Period Sum Start Date A = EDD Weekly Benefit Amount Wages B = Normal Gross Weekly Wage C = Supplemental Compensation Add the sum of wages and divide by 12 = (B) Normal Weekly Wage Calculation: B - A = CBi-weekly pay: **Documents Needed:** Pay Period Start Date Sum The EDD Notice of Computation Form (DE 429D) or the employee's weekly benefit amount provided by EDD; and, employer payroll records covering the lookback period (as defined in the Ordinance). Wages Step One: Find the employee's California Employment Development Department (EDD) weekly benefit amount from the EDD Notice of Computation form provided by the employee. Add the sum of wages and divide by 12 \_\_\_\_\_ = (B) Normal Weekly Wage EDD Weekly Benefit (A) = Semi-Monthly pay: Step Two: Determine the current normal gross weekly wages from employer payroll records. Sum i. If weekly wages do not fluctuate then use the amount for the week immediately preceding the bonding leave period. (For parents who give birth, use the amount for the week immediately Wages preceding pregnancy disability leave.) Normal Gross Weekly Wage (B) = \_\_\_\_\_ from constant wages Add the sum of wages and divide by 13 = (B) Normal Weekly Wage ii. If weekly wages fluctuate, they must be calculated based on the Paid Parental Leave lookback Step Three: Is the current normal gross weekly wage greater than \$2,700 (the 2023 Maximum PPLO period. The lookback period is defined as "immediately preceding the start of the employee's Benefit Amount)? California Paid Family Leave Period" (or, for parents who give birth and take Paid Family Leave immediately after their pregnancy disability leave ends, their Paid Parental Leave Lookback If yes, then use \$2,700 for "B" in the calculation below. Period will be the period immediately preceding their pregnancy disability leave.) The period If no, then use "B" from above contains six bi-weekly or semi-monthly, or 12 weekly pay periods and is codified at Step Four: Determine the Supplemental Compensation by subtracting A from B. The grids below will help you calculate the employee's Normal Gross Weekly Wage from this period. Weekly Supplemental Compensation If your employee was on unpaid or partially paid leave for any of these pay periods, do not include those pay periods in calculating the average gross weekly wage. Rather add in earlier pay periods up Step Five: If you need to pay Supplemental Compensation daily, divide the weekly amount from Step to 26 weeks prior to the start date of your employee's California Paid Family Leave for child bonding. Four by 5 days. C/5= Daily Supplemental Compensation amount. Fill in your employee's pre-tax earnings, in the grid below based on how the employee is paid; bi-Step Six: If you need to pay Supplemental Compensation hourly, divide the daily amount from Step Five weekly, semi-monthly, or weekly. Note that commissions and bonuses may be included when they by 8 hours. Daily/8 = Hourly Supplemental Compensation Amount. qualify as "wages" under CA law.



# Failure to Return to Work – Employee Must Reimburse Employer

#### **PPL Form Includes Reimbursement Requirement**

- Applies where the employee voluntarily separates from employment (i.e., quits) within 90 days of the end of the leave period
- Requires the employee to reimburse the employer for the full amount of the PPL paid by the employer
- Employer must request the reimbursement in writing to trigger the requirement
- Reality check: How would you actually enforce this reimbursement requirement?

#### **Example**

- Finn (a covered employee) has a new child and receives the full eight weeks of PPL from his covered employer, the First Order
- He never returns to work after the leave period (joins a rival enterprise)

#### Result

- If the First Order makes the request in writing, Finn must repay the full eight weeks of PPL he received
- Maybe the First Order could withhold the amount from his final paycheck (if any)—but check with employment counsel to confirm if any legal issues
- Otherwise, would an employer sue a former employee or send it as a debt to collections to enforce the reimbursement requirement? Seems unlikely!





# PPL Not Available Prior to PFL

- New birth mothers will have a period of Pregnancy Disability Leave (PDL) where they receive SDI.
- This is typically six weeks after birth (eight weeks for c-section), but it can be up to four months.
- PPL cannot be satisfied during this PDL/SDI period. It must wait until PFL for new child bonding.

#### **Birth Mother**

Must complete PDL/SDI period prior to PFL baby bonding for PPL eligibility

#### Specifics:

- The period of PDL entitles the employee to SDI benefits for the period of disability
- PPL cannot be satisfied during the PDL/SDI period
- Upon exhausting the PDL/SDI period, EDD will automatically send PFL claim form to employee
- No waiting period in transition from SDI to baby bonding PFL

#### **Non-Birthing Parent**

PFL/PPL benefits begin immediately

#### **Specifics:**

- Individuals who have a new child without giving birth do not have a period of disability (no PDL/SDI)
- Includes a new father, a new nonbirthing mother in same-sex relationship, a new parent via surrogacy, or a new parent via adoption or foster care
- PFL/PPL new child bonding period begins immediately



# Exception: Existing Paid Parental Leave Policies

#### Full Pay for at Least Eight Weeks is Always Sufficient to Satisfy PPLO

- The SF PPLO includes an exception for employers that pay covered employees 100% of pay (at least up to the cap) for parental leave
- The employer's full parental leave pay policy must provide for at least eight weeks in the 12-month period following birth, adoption, or foster care placement
- Cannot integrate with SDI/PFL during this period—must be 100% pay (at least up to the cap) to qualify for the exception!
- Makes sense that employer should not be required to pay supplemental pay during PFL period for new child bonding if the employer has already provided eight weeks of full pay
- Why use this approach? Even though it costs more to the employer (because of the inability to integrate with PFL) the administrative simplicity is sometimes more important

Full details: <u>SF PPLO Existing Paid Parental Leave Policies</u>

#### **Example**

- Rey (a covered employee) gives birth to a new child and receives eight weeks of full pay (not integrated with SDI or PFL) from her covered employer the Resistance
- Rey subsequently receives eight weeks of PFL for new child bonding

#### Result

 The Resistance does not have to provide PPLO supplemental compensation during Rey's period of PFL because it has already met the "Existing Paid Parental Leave Policies" exception.



# Exception: Existing Paid Parental Leave Policies

# Sample Handbook Provision for Exception:

The Company's Parental Leave
 Policy satisfies the San Francisco
 Paid Parental Leave Ordinance
 pursuant to San Francisco Police
 Code Sec. 3300H.4(d) as an
 Existing Paid Parental Leave Policy.

# SF PPLO Ordinance Section (Amended in 2020 to Conform to PFL Expansion)

#### San Francisco Police Code §3300H.4(d):

(d) Existing Paid Parental Leave Policies. This Article 33H does not require a Covered Employer to provide Supplemental Compensation under Section 3300H.4 to a Covered Employee if the employer's existing policy provides the employee with at least six weeks fully paid parental leave for at least the number of weeks paid leave is required by the California Paid Family Leave law, as amended from time to time, within any twelve-month period for purposes of New Child Bonding, whether or not such paid leave includes California Paid Family Leave benefits. Unless the Employee elects otherwise, the six weeks fully paid parental leave referenced in the prior sentence must be provided as six consecutive weeks.

Full details: <u>SF PPLO Existing Paid Parental Leave Policies</u>



# 06 Examples

PPLO Pain Points



# Example 1: New Birth Mother

#### **Example**

- Covered employer Saberworks with 20+ employees has two covered employees who have new children born on New Year's Day (January 1, 2024)
- Employee 1: Shmi gives birth to Anakin
- Employee 2: Han is the father of a new child Ben

#### **Employee 1: Shmi Result**

- Shmi will have a period of PDL during which she receives SDI
- In this case, the PDL/SDI period is six weeks
- If Shmi remains on leave at the end of the PDL/SDI period, she can transition to PFL for baby bonding beginning week seven
- No option to pay PPL to Shmi in the six-week PDL/SDI period prior to PFL baby bonding period unless at 100% and not integrated with SDI/PFL to meet the existing paid parental leave policy exception
  - From the SF OLSE: "This would not comply with the ordinance or its intent. The San Francisco Paid Parental Leave Ordinance is only for New Child Bonding and built on the CA PFL for bonding, not disability. The supplemental compensation payments are to be made for the bonding period to comply with the ordinance."



# Example 2: New Non-Birthing Parent

#### **Example**

- Covered employer Saberworks with 20+ employees has two covered employees who have new children born on New Year's Day (January 1, 2024)
- Employee 1: Shmi gives birth to Anakin
- Employee 2: Han is the father of a new child Ben

#### **Employee 2: Han Result**

- · Han is not a birthing mother, so he is not disabled
- This means he goes straight to PFL for baby bonding
- Han will therefore be eligible for PPL from Saberworks immediately upon the birth
- Note that this is different from Shmi, who must wait until her disability period has ended to receive PPL

#### Weird result:

- Unless Saberworks chooses to provide additional pay to Shmi and other new SF birthing mother employees
  during the PDL/SDI period, Shmi will receive 60% of pay for first six weeks after birth, then 100% of pay for weeks
  7-14 (while receiving PFL)
- Creates interesting incentive for birthing mothers to extend leave



# Example 3: SF Home Office

#### **Example**

- Covered employer First Order with 20+ employees has two long-time employees who have new children born on New Year's Day (January 1, 2024)
- Employee 3: Darth works 3 days per week in company's Silicon Valley headquarters, and 2 days per week from home in his SF apartment
- Employee 4: Kylo works from home 4 days per week in his Oakland house, and he comes into the SF office
   1 day per week

#### **Employee 3: Darth Result**

- Darth meets all the requirements to be a PPL covered employee
- He has been employed for at least 180 days
- He works at least 8 hours per week in San Francisco (from home)
- His San Francisco work is at least 40% of his weekly hours (exactly 40% here)
- He is eligible for PFL for baby bonding with his new twins
- Key point here is that the employee can be covered by the PPLO based exclusively on work from SF home!
  - For more details: <u>SF PPLO in the Work-From-Home Era</u>



# Example 4: SF Work One Day Per Week

#### **Example**

- Covered employer First Order with 20+ employees has two long-time employees who have new children born on New Year's Day (January 1, 2024)
- Employee 3: Darth works 3 days per week in company's Silicon Valley headquarters, and 2 days per week from home in his SF apartment
- Employee 4: Kylo works from home 4 days per week in his Oakland house, and he comes into the comes into the SF office 1 day per week

#### **Employee 4: Kylo Result**

- Kylo does not meet all the requirements to be a SF PPL covered employee
- He has been employed for at least 180 days
- He works at least 8 hours per week in San Francisco
- His San Francisco work is NOT at least 40% of his weekly hours (20% here)
- He is eligible for CA PFL for baby bonding with his new twins
- Key point here is that an employees who work at least 8 hours per week in SF can still be excluded from covered employee status
  - The SF PPLO 40% requirement is an important difference from the SF HCSO!



### 07

# Vacation Time

Required Use Provisions



# Two Weeks Unused Vacation Leave Can Reduce Employer Payment

# Employer May Require the Employee to Use Up to Two Weeks Unused Vacation Leave Prior to Receiving PFL

- Employers may first require that employees use up to two weeks of paid vacation time or PTO (but not sick time) before receiving PFL benefits
- PPLO does not affect this option

# **Employer May Then Require the Employee to Use Up to Two Weeks Unused Vacation Leave During PPL Period**

- The employer may also require the employee to use up to an additional two weeks of paid vacation (if available) once PFL starts and the PPL period begins
- The paid vacation during this period must be integrated with PFL to cover only the remaining balance—which is the employer's PPL obligation
- Vacation time used during this period satisfies the employer's PPL obligation
- This can be a major reduction in the amount that the employer is required to pay for PPL!



# Two-Week Unused Vacation Leave: Example

#### **Example**

- Jengo (a covered employee) has four weeks of unused vacation time (or PTO) available with his employer
   Kamino when he has a son, Boba
- Kamino's policy is to require use of up to two weeks vacation time prior to the PFL period
- Kamino also requires use of up to two weeks of vacation time to satisfy its PPL obligations
- Jengo's normal gross weekly wages are \$1,000

#### Result

- Jengo first uses two weeks of unused vacation time before receiving PFL
- After he uses two weeks of vacation, he starts receiving PFL (\$600/week)
- Kamino's PPL requirement is \$400/week, or \$3,200 total (\$400 x 8 weeks)
- Jengo has two weeks of unused vacation time remaining, valued at \$2,000
- Kamino's PPL obligation for the first five weeks is satisfied by draining the remaining two weeks of vacation time from Jenga (\$2,000)
- At the end of that five-week period, Kamino must pay the remaining three weeks of PPL from its funds (\$1,200)



Recordkeeping and Notices



# Employer Notice Requirements

#### Yet another workplace poster!

- Covered employers must post the PPLO poster in a conspicuous place at any worksite or job site where any covered employee works
- Notice must be posted in English, Spanish, and Chinese (plus any other language spoken by at least 5% of employees at the workplace or job site)
- Model notice from prior slide includes the three main required languages

#### Employee handbook update, too

- If the covered employer maintains an employee handbook that describes personal or parental leave available to its employees, they must also include a description of the employee's PPLO rights
- Employer must include the PPLO description in the next edition of its handbook published on or after December 23, 2016 (the date the PPLO regulations were finalized)

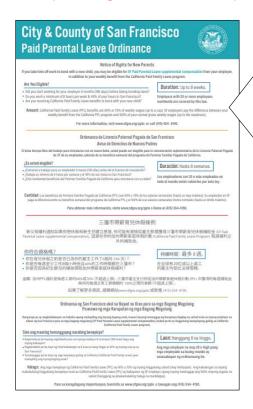
#### Reminder: provide the PPL form

See earlier slide for details on when to provide the PPL form to employees



### PPLO Poster

Available at: https://sf.gov/information/paid-parental-leave-ordinance



#### **Notice of Rights for New Parents**

If you take time off work to bond with a new child, you may be eligible for SF Paid Parental Leave supplemental compensation from your employer, in addition to your weekly benefit from the California Paid Family Leave program.

#### Are You Eligible?

- Did you start working for your employer 6 months (180 days) before taking bonding leave?
- Do you work a minimum of 8 hours per week & 40% of your hours in San Francisco?
- Are you receiving California Paid Family Leave benefits to bond with your new child?

**Duration:** Up to 8 weeks.

Employers with 20 or more employees worldwide are covered by this law.

Amount: California Paid Family Leave (PFL) benefits are 60% or 70% of weekly wages (up to a cap). SF employers pay the difference between your weekly benefit from the California PFL program and 100% of your normal gross weekly wages (up to the maximum).

For more information, visit www.sfgov.org/pplo or call (415) 554- 4190.



# Template Handbook Provision – SF Employees Only

#### Paid Parental Leave (PPL) – San Francisco Employees

Certain employees who work in San Francisco are eligible for Paid Parental Leave (PPL) upon having a new child by birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

To be eligible for PPL, you must meet all of the following requirements:

- A. Have worked with the Company for at least 180 days prior to the start date of the leave;
- B. Perform at least eight hours of work per week in San Francisco;
- C. Perform at least 40% of your total weekly work hours in San Francisco; and
- D. Be receiving California PFL for new child bonding.

If you are eligible for PPL, the Company will pay the weekly difference between your normal weekly gross wages (*up to a cap*) and your weekly CA PFL benefit. You will receive PPL from the Company for the duration of the period you receive CA PFL for new child bonding. PPL is not available during any other period of leave related to a new child (e.g., if you are a new birthing mother, you will not receive PPL during the period of CA PDL in which you receive CA SDI).

CA PFL pays 60% or 70% of your weekly wages (*up to a cap*) depending on your income level, which means that the Company will pay the remaining 40% or 30% of your weekly wages (*up to a cap*) in PPL, as applicable.

If you are a San Francisco employee who may be eligible for PPL, please contact People Operations in advance of your new child bonding leave for more details and limitations, as well as a copy of the Parental Leave Form you must complete to receive PPL.

[Note to employer: The cap for 2024 is based on an annual salary of \$160,538 in 2024, or \$3,087 per week. Employers may choose to increase or eliminate that cap to provide full compensation to employees with a salary higher than \$160,538. That is the *italicized* option here.]



### Template Handbook Provision – All CA Employees

#### Paid Parental Leave (PPL) – California Employees

The Company provides Paid Parental Leave (PPL) upon eligible employees having a new child by birth, adoption, or foster care placement.

To be eligible for PPL, you must meet both of the following requirements:

- A. Have worked with the Company for at least 180 days prior the start date of the leave; and
- Be receiving California PFL for new child bonding.

If you are eligible for PPL, the Company will pay the weekly difference between your normal weekly gross wages (*up to a cap*) and your weekly CA PFL benefit. You will receive PPL from the Company for the duration of the period you receive CA PFL for new child bonding. PPL is not available during any other period of leave related to a new child (e.g., if you are a new birthing mother, you will not receive PPL during the period of CA PDL in which you receive CA SDI).

CA PFL pays 60% or 70% of your weekly wages (*up to a cap*) depending on your income level, which means that the Company will pay the remaining 40% or 30% of your weekly wages (*up to a cap*) in PPL, as applicable.

If you are a San Francisco employee who may be eligible for PPL, please contact Human Resources in advance of your new child bonding leave for more details and limitations, as well as a copy of the Parental Leave Form you must complete to receive PPL.

(Note: This PPL provision complies with the San Francisco Paid Parental Leave Ordinance. The Company offers PPL to all California employees meeting the requirements set forth above—not just those working in San Francisco.)

[Note to employer: The cap for 2024 is based on an annual salary of \$160,538 in 2024, or \$3,087 per week. Employers may choose to increase or eliminate that cap to provide full compensation to employees with a salary higher than \$160,538. That is the *italicized* option here.]



# Recordkeeping Requirements

#### **Three-Year Rule**

#### Yet another record retention rule!

- Covered employers must keep records documenting PPL paid to employees for a period of three years
- Must allow the OLSE to access such records, with appropriate notice and at a mutually agreeable time, to monitor compliance with the PPLO

#### Failure to comply

- Failures to comply result in presumption that the employer has violated the PPLO when an issue arises for an employee
- Employer must demonstrate clear and convincing evidence of compliance to rebut that presumption
- Applies where employer does not maintain or retain adequate records documenting PPL paid to an employee
- Also applies where employer does not allow the OLSE reasonable access to such records



Other Compliance Issues



# The Other PPLO Stuff

#### **Exclusions from the PPLO**

- Employers with fewer than 20 employees (worldwide)—use a three-month lookback period on the earlier slide for average employer size if the workforce fluctuates from week
- All governmental entities
- Collectively bargained employees if the requirements are expressly waived in the CBA
- Also excludes any CBA entered into (and not extended) before the PPLO was enacted (4/5/16)

#### Multiple Employers or Tipped Employees

- Special rules apply if the employee has multiple employers or receives tips
- Covered employer has the right to request pay stubs from employee to verify wages
- Calculation method available here:

https://sf.gov/information/paid-parental-leave-ordinance

#### PPL payment timing

- Employer must make a good-faith effort to make the first PPL payment on the payday for the next full pay period after the employee completes and provides the PPL form
- For subsequent payments, the employer must make a good-faith effort to pay in accordance with the employer's regular pay schedule
- Outer limit for full PPL payment is 30 days after the employee's PFL period ends



# The Other PPLO Stuff

#### Intermittent leave

- Employees are permitted to receive PFL benefits intermittently
- Extensive PPLO rules govern how to comply during an employee's intermittent leave
- See rules starting on page 12:
   https://sf.gov/sites/default/files/20
   22 12/33%20FINAL%20PPLO%20R
   ules%205%2018%202017 0 0.p
   df

#### **Appeal process**

- Employee may report suspected violations of the PPLO to the OLSE
- If the employer receives a
   Determination of Violation, it may
   file an appeal by requesting a
   hearing before a neutral hearing
   officer appointed by the Office of
   the Controller
- Employer will have the burden of proof to show that the violation is incorrect

# California Voluntary Plans (VDI)

- Employers with a California Voluntary Plan (VDI) that replaces SDI/PFL must still comply with the PPLO
- PPL payments may be provided through the voluntary plan or by paying the PPL amounts directly to the covered employee



# PPLO Quick Steps Guide

Available at: https://sf.gov/information/paid-parental-leave-ordinance



Step #1

#### Apply for CA Paid Family Leave (PFL) Benefits

Online or paper application through Employment Development Department (EDD).

Be sure to check the box allowing EDD to disclose your

Step #2

#### Complete SF Paid Parental Leave Form (SF PPL Form)

Form is available on the OLSE Website and should be provided by your employer.

If you have multiple employers, complete a form for each

Step #3

#### Submit SF PPL Form & EDD Notice of Computation to **Employer**

When you apply for PFL benefits, the EDD will send you a Notice of Computation that includes your weekly benefit

Step #4

#### Notify Employer When You Receive First PFL Payment

If requested, provide your employer with the EDD Notice of Payment (also known as the Electronic Benefit Payment Notification).



STOP: Your Application is Now Complete!





#### **EMPLOYER'S**

**Guide to the San Francisco Paid Parental Leave Ordinance** 

Step #1

#### **Give Notice to Employees**

Post Notice created by OLSE.

Include a description of the right to Supplemental Compensation under the SF Paid Parental Leave Ordinance (PPLO) in employee handbook.

Step #2

#### **Give Employee SF Paid Parental Leave Form** (SF PPL Form)

Available at: http://sfgov.org/pplo

Provide a copy as soon as employee asks about parental leave or tells you she/he is expecting a newborn, adopted or foster child. It is also recommended to provide it to all new employees.

Step #3

#### **Determine Employee's Eligibility**

The employee is eligible if he/she: (1) commenced work for you at least 180 days before leave period; (2) works at least 8 hours per week and 40% of total weekly hours in San Francisco; (3) has applied for and is eligible for CA Paid Family Leave (PFL).

Step #4

#### Calculate & Pay Supplemental Compensation

You will need the employee's Normal Weekly Wages and EDD Weekly Benefit amount. This information should be on the SF PPL Form and EDD Notice of Computation, which the employee receives

Calculation instructions available on the OLSE website









### PPLO Enforcement and Penalties

1	If the OLSE determines that the employer has committed a violation after the appeal process, it may order PPL payment to the employee
2	OLSE may order that the PPL payment to the employee include an administrative penalty of the greater of:  a. Three times PPL amount withheld to the employee; or  b. \$250
3	Failure to post the notice, comply with anti-retaliation provisions, or other noncompliance includes a \$50/day administrative penalty payment to each employee
4	OLSE may request that the City revoke or suspend any city certificates, permits, or licenses held by the employer where "prompt compliance is not forthcoming"
5	OLSE may order a \$50/day penalty to the City to fund its enforcement activity
6	The City or any other person may bring a civil action against the employer after serving notice to the OLSE and City Attorney



# Wrap-up

Takeaways



### The San Francisco Paid Parental Leave Ordinance (PPLO)

#### Three Key Points to Remember



The SF PPLO imposes a supplemental compensation requirement for certain employees working in San Francisco. The law is designed to provide employees with full pay during their period of new child bonding leave. Keep in mind that the covered employee definition for PPLO eligibility is different in a few very significant ways from the HCSO covered employee definition!



There is no funding mechanism for SF PPLO supplemental compensation other than the employer's general responsibility to cover the payments. Unlike the CA PFL portion, there is no payroll tax and no government-administered program to ensure there are resources and systems in place to cover the cost and process. Instead, employers are broadly responsible for all aspects of PPLO funding and administration.



Many employers want to simply optout of the SF PPLO scheme by being at least as generous as the law requires. This is particularly desirable for employers operating in multiple jurisdictions that do not want to have different parental programs in place for different groups of employees. Make sure that your arrangement meets the specific existing paid parental leave exemption requirements to qualify.



# Content Disclaimer

The San Francisco Paid Parental Leave Ordinance (PPLO)

The intent of this analysis is to provide the recipient with general information regarding the status of, and/or potential concerns related to, the recipient's current employee benefits issues. This analysis does not necessarily fully address the recipient's specific issue, and it should not be construed as, nor is it intended to provide, legal advice. Furthermore, this message does not establish an attorney-client relationship. Questions regarding specific issues should be addressed to the person(s) who provide legal advice to the recipient regarding employee benefits issues (e.g., the recipient's general counsel or an attorney hired by the recipient who specializes in employee benefits law).

Newfront makes no warranty, express or implied, that adherence to, or compliance with any recommendations, best practices, checklists, or guidelines will result in a particular outcome. The presenters do not warrant that the information in this document constitutes a complete list of each and every item or procedure related to the topics or issues referenced herein. Federal, state or local laws, regulations, standards or codes may change from time to time and the reader should always refer to the most current requirements and consult with their legal and HR advisors for review of any proposed policies or programs.



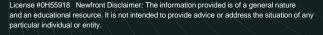
# Thank you



Brian Gilmore

Lead Benefits Counsel, VP

brian.gilmore@newfront.com



Any recipient shall be responsible for the use to which it puts this document. Newfront shall have no liability for the information provided. While care has been taken to produce this document, Newfront does not warrant, represent or guarantee the completeness, accuracy, adequacy or fitness with respect to the information contained in this document. The information provided does not reflect new circumstances or additional regulatory and legal changes. The issues addressed may have legal or financial implications, and we recommend you speak to your legal and financial advisors before acting on any of the information provided.









