
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW NOW FOR APPLICABLE STATE BENEFITS

California employees ONLY

If you work in California, you may be entitled to a State Disability Insurance (SDI) benefit.

Who is eligible for this State Disability Insurance?

Workers in California who have a loss of wages when they are unable to work due to a non-work-related illness, injury, or pregnancy, may be eligible for state disability insurance (SDI) benefits.

Eligibility Requirements

In order to be eligible for SDI benefits, you must:

- Be unable to do your regular or customary work for at least eight consecutive days.
- Be employed or actively looking for work at the time your disability begins.
- Have lost wages because of your disability or, if unemployed, have been actively looking for work.
- Have earned at least \$300 from which SDI deductions were withheld during a previous period. For additional information, **Calculating Benefit Payment Amounts** visit https://edd.ca.gov/Disability/Calculating_DI_Benefit_Payment_Amounts.htm.
- Be under the care and treatment of a licensed physician/practitioner or accredited religious practitioner during the first eight days of your disability. The date a claim begins can be adjusted if it does not meet this requirement. You must remain under care and treatment to continue receiving benefits.
- Complete and submit your claim form (DE 2501) no later than 49 days after your disability begins or you may lose benefits. The first day you may submit a claim form is nine days after the first day your disability begins.
- Have your physician/practitioner complete the medical certification of your disability.
 - A nurse practitioner may certify to a disability within his/her scope of practice; however, he/she must perform a physical examination and collaborate with a physician or surgeon.
 - A licensed midwife, nurse-midwife, or nurse practitioner may complete the medical certification for disabilities related to normal pregnancy or childbirth.
 - If you are under the care of a religious practitioner, request a *Practitioner's Certificate* (DE 2502), from an SDI office. Certification by a religious practitioner is acceptable only if the practitioner has been accredited by the Employment Development Department.

Please note that your employer will be notified that you have submitted a DI claim. However, your detailed information is confidential and will not be shared with your employer.

An independent medical examination to determine your initial or continuing eligibility may be required.

Note: If you or a family member takes time off work to care for a family member with a serious health condition, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or registered domestic partner, you/your family member may be eligible for Paid Family Leave (PFL) benefits.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THIS STATE BENEFIT

- Please request a form** at 1-800-480-3287 or **apply online** at www.edd.ca.gov/disability.

SDI Online Tips

Are you unable to work because of a pregnancy, non-work-related disability or need to bond with a new child, care for an ill family member, or assist a military family member? Use SDI Online to apply for Disability Insurance (DI) or Paid Family Leave (PFL) benefits!

Get Started Today! Create a Benefit Programs Online Login

If you already have a Benefit Programs Online (BPO) login, you may skip this step.

- Visit [Benefit Programs Online \(BPO\)](http://edd.ca.gov/BPO) (edd.ca.gov/BPO) and select **Register**.
- Enter a personal email and create a password.
- Choose a personal image and caption. Select and answer the security questions.
- Check your email. Select the unique link within 48 hours to complete the process or you'll need to start over.

Make sure to check your junk/spam folder if you don't see this message in your inbox.

Register in SDI Online

Log in to BPO and select **SDI Online** to begin registration.

- Select the **Register as a Claimant** link.
- Enter all required information such as legal name and date of birth as it appears on your California driver license (CDL) or identification (ID) card.
- Select **Submit** and save your EDD Customer Account Number for future reference.

You will need to file by mail if you do not have a CDL or ID.

File your DI or PFL Claim

Log in to BPO and select **SDI Online** to get started.

- Select **New Claim**.
- Select the appropriate link to apply for DI or PFL benefits.
- Enter all required information including your employer's details, last date worked, wages received after you stopped working, and any workers' compensation information, if applicable.
- Review the information on the Summary Page and select **Submit**.

After submitting your claim, a confirmation page will display. Save your receipt number and follow the instructions to complete your DI or PFL claim.

What's Next?

DI claims require a medical certification for your disability. Provide your receipt number to your [licensed health professional](http://edd.ca.gov/en/Disability/Physicians-Practitioners) (edd.ca.gov/en/Disability/Physicians-Practitioners).

Care claims require a completed *Claim for Paid Family Leave (PFL) Benefits* (DE 2501FC) uploaded to the claim. The licensed health professional can complete their certification through SDI Online or by using the DE 2501FC.

Bonding claims require proof of relationship documentation:

- Child's birth certificate.
- Foster care placement record.
- Adoptive Placement Agreement.
- New mothers transitioning from a DI pregnancy claim do not need to submit proof of relationship documentation.

Military Assist claims require supporting military documentation:

- Covered active duty orders.
- Letter of impending call or order to covered duty.
- Documentation of leave for Rest and Recuperation.
- Documentation of the qualifying events.

After you upload all necessary documents, we will review your claim and notify you of approval or denial within 14 days.

For additional help with your SDI Online account, view the [SDI Online Tutorials](http://edd.ca.gov/disability/SDI_Online_Tutorials) (edd.ca.gov/disability/SDI_Online_Tutorials.htm).