

TO: All Town Staff
FROM: Jeannie Horne, Human Resources Director
DATE: October 1, 2021
RE: Massachusetts COVID-19 Temporary Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act

On September 29, 2021, Governor Charlie Baker amended the Massachusetts COVID-19 Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act.

The original Act created a sick leave program that was available to Massachusetts employees starting on May 28, 2021. The leave program was set to expire after September 30, 2021, or once the \$75 million dollar program funds are exhausted, whichever occurred first.

The amendment extends the duration of the program and expands the reasons employees may take leave under the law. The new reason an employee can request this leave under the program is: “to care for a family member who needs to obtain or recover from a COVID-19 immunization.” The amendment did not change the leave amounts that employees are entitled to between the time period of May 28, 2021, and April 1, 2022, or the exhaustion of \$75 million in program funds as determined by the Commonwealth, whichever is earlier.

To download the Massachusetts COVID-19 Temporary Emergency Paid Sick Leave Request Form, click this link:

For more information about the Act, click this link: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-temporary-emergency-paid-sick-leave-program>

As always, please contact me with any questions you may have.

Best,
Jeannie