Certification for Serious Injury or Illness of a Current Servicemember for Military Caregiver Leave

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The Connecticut Family and Medical Leave Act (CTFMLA) provides that eligible employees may take CTFMLA leave to care for a covered servicemember with a serious illness or injury. The CTFMLA allows an employer to require an employee seeking CTFMLA leave for this purpose to submit a medical certification. The employer must give the employee at least 15 calendar days from the date the employee receives the form to provide the certification. If the employee fails to provide complete and sufficient certification, his or her CTFMLA leave request may be denied. Information about the CTFMLA may be found at https://portal.ct.gov/DOLUI/newfmlaguidance.

SECTION I - EMPLOYER

Either the employee or the employer may complete Section I. While use of this form is optional, it asks the health care provider for the information necessary for a complete and sufficient medical certification. You may not ask the employee to provide more information than allowed under the CTFMLA regulations. Recertifications are not allowed for CTFMLA leave to care for a covered servicemember. Where medical certification is requested by an employer, an employee may not be held liable for administrative delays in the issuance of military documents, despite the employee’s diligent, good-faith efforts to obtain such documents. An employer requiring an employee to submit a certification for leave to care for a covered servicemember must accept as sufficient certification invitational travel orders (ITO) or invitational travel authorizations (ITAs) issued to any family member to join an injured or ill servicemember at the servicemember’s bedside. An ITO or ITA is sufficient certification for the duration of time specified in the ITO or ITA.

Employers must generally maintain records and documents relating to medical information, medical certifications, recertifications, or medical histories of employees or employees’ family members created for CTFMLA purposes as confidential medical records in separate files/records from the usual personnel files.

(1) Employee name: ____________________________

       First                      Middle                      Last

(2) Employer name: ___________________________ Date: ____________ (mm/dd/yyyy)

(List date certification requested)

(3) This certification must be returned by: ___________________________ (mm/dd/yyyy)

(Must allow at least 15 calendar days from the date the employee receives the form, unless it is not feasible despite the employee’s diligent, good faith efforts. If the employee needs additional time, he/she must contact the employer.)

SECTION II - EMPLOYEE and/or CURRENT SERVICEMEMBER

Please complete all Parts of Section II before having the servicemember’s health care provider complete Section III. The CTFMLA allows an employer to require that an employee submit a timely, complete, and sufficient certification to support a request for CTFMLA leave due to a serious injury or illness of a covered servicemember. If requested by your employer, your response is required to obtain or retain the benefit of CTFMLA-protected leave.

PART A: EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

(1) Name of the current servicemember for whom employee is requesting leave: __________________________

(2) Select your relationship to the current servicemember. You are the current servicemember’s:

   ☐ Spouse    ☐ Parent    ☐ Child    ☐ Next of Kin

The terms “child” and “parent” include in loco parentis relationships in which a person assumes the obligations of a parent to a child. An employee may take CTFMLA leave to care for a covered servicemember who assumed the obligations of a parent to the employee when the employee was a child. An employee may also take CTFMLA leave to care for a covered servicemember for
whom the employee has assumed the obligations of a parent. No biological or legal relationship is necessary. “Next of kin” is the servicemember’s nearest blood relative, other than the spouse, parent, son, or daughter, in the following order of priority: (1) a blood relative or any other individual whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family member as designated in writing by the servicemember for purposes of CTFMLA leave, (2) blood relatives granted legal custody of the servicemember, (3) brothers and sisters, (4) grandparents, (5) aunts and uncles, and (6) first cousins.

**PART B: SERVICEMEMBER INFORMATION AND CARE TO BE PROVIDED TO THE SERVICEMEMBER**

(1) The servicemember (☐ is / ☐ is not) a current member of the Armed Forces, the National Guard or Reserves. If yes, provide the servicemember’s military branch, rank and unit currently assigned to: ____________________________

(2) The servicemember (☐ is / ☐ is not) assigned to a military medical treatment facility as an outpatient or to a unit established for the purpose of providing command and control of members of the Armed Forces receiving medical care as outpatients, such as a medical hold or warrior transition unit. If yes, provide the name of the medical treatment facility or unit: ____________________________

(3) The servicemember (☐ is / ☐ is not) on the Temporary Disability Retired List (TDRL).

(4) Briefly describe the care you will provide to the servicemember: *(Check all that apply)*
- ☐ Assistance with basic medical, hygienic, nutritional, or safety needs
- ☐ Psychological Comfort
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Physical Care
- ☐ Other: ____________________________

(5) Give your **best estimate** of the amount of leave needed to provide the care described: ______________

(6) If a reduced work schedule is necessary to provide the care described, give your **best estimate** of the reduced work schedule you are able to work. From _____________ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____________ (mm/dd/yyyy), I am able to work: ______________ (hours per day) ______________ (days per week).

**SECTION III - HEALTH CARE PROVIDER**

Please provide your contact information, **complete all Parts of this Section fully and completely**, and sign the form below. The employee listed at Section I has requested leave under the CTFMLA to care for a family member who is a current member of the Armed Forces, the National Guard, or the Reserves who is undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy, is otherwise in outpatient status, or is otherwise on the temporary disability retired list for a serious injury or illness.

**Note:** For purposes of CTFMLA leave, a “serious injury or illness” is one that was incurred in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces or that existed before the beginning of the member’s active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces that may render the servicemember medically unfit to perform the duties of the servicemember’s office, grade, rank, or rating. “Need for care” includes both physical and psychological care. It includes situations where, for example, due to his or her serious injury or illness, the servicemember is not able to care for his or her own basic medical, hygienic, or nutritional needs or safety, or needs transportation to the doctor. It also includes providing psychological comfort and reassurance which would be beneficial to the servicemember who is receiving inpatient or home care. A “complete and sufficient certification” to support a request for CTFMLA leave due to a current servicemember’s serious injury or illness includes written documentation confirming that the servicemember’s injury or illness was incurred in the line of duty on active duty or if not, that the current servicemember’s injury or illness existed before the beginning of the servicemember’s active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty in the Armed Forces, and that the current servicemember is undergoing treatment for such injury or illness by a health care provider listed below.
PART A: HEALTH CARE PROVIDER INFORMATION

(1) Health Care Provider’s Name: (Print) _____________________________________________

(2) Health Care Provider’s business address: ____________________________________________

(3) Type of practice/Medical specialty: ________________________________________________

(4) Telephone: (__) __________ Fax: (__) __________ E-mail: ____________________________

(5) Please select the type of CTFMLA health care provider you are:

☐ DOD health care provider
☐ VA health care provider
☐ DOD TRICARE network authorized private health care provider
☐ DOD non-network TRICARE authorized private health care provider
☐ Health care provider as defined in the CTFMLA

PART B: MEDICAL INFORMATION

Please provide appropriate medical information of the patient as requested below. Limit your responses to the servicemember’s condition for which the employee is seeking leave. If you are unable to make some of the military-related determinations contained below, you are permitted to rely upon determinations from an authorized DOD representative, such as a DOD recovery care coordinator. Do not provide information about genetic tests or genetic services.

(1) Patient’s Name: ________________________________________________________________

(2) List the approximate date the condition started or will start: __________________________ (mm/dd/yyyy)

(3) Provide your best estimate of how long the condition will last: __________________________

(4) The servicemember’s injury or illness: (Select as appropriate)

☐ Was incurred in the line of duty on active duty.
☐ Existed before the beginning of the servicemember’s active duty and was aggravated by service in the line of duty on active duty.
☐ None of the above.

(5) The servicemember (☐ is / ☐ is not) undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for this condition.

If yes, briefly describe the medical treatment, recuperation or therapy:

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

(6) The current servicemember’s medical condition is classified as: (Select as appropriate)

☐ (VSI) Very Seriously Ill/Injured Illness/Injury is of such a severity that life is imminently endangered. Family members are requested at bedside immediately. Please note this is an internal DOD casualty assistance designation used by DOD healthcare providers.

☐ (SI) Seriously Ill/Injured Illness/injury is of such severity that there is cause for immediate concern, but there is no imminent danger to life. Family members are requested at bedside. Please note this is an internal DOD casualty assistance designation used by DOD healthcare providers.
☐ Other Ill/Injured A serious injury or illness that may render the servicemember medically unfit to perform the duties of the member’s office, grade, rank, or rating.

☐ NONE OF THE ABOVE. Note to Employee: If this box is checked, you may still be eligible to take leave to care for a covered family member with a “serious health condition” under the CTFMLA. You must contact your employer to request CTFMLA leave to care for a family member. If such leave is requested, you may be required to complete Form DOL-FMF or an employer-provided form seeking the same information.

PART C: AMOUNT OF LEAVE NEEDED

For the medical condition checked in Part B, complete all that apply. Some questions seek a response as to the frequency or duration of a condition, treatment, etc. Your answer should be your best estimate based upon your medical knowledge, experience, and examination of the patient. Be as specific as you can; terms such as “lifetime,” “unknown,” or “indeterminate” may not be sufficient to determine CTFMLA coverage.

(1) Due to the condition, the servicemember will need care for a continuous period of time, including any time for treatment and recovery. Provide your best estimate of the beginning date __________ (mm/dd/yyyy) and end date (mm/dd/yyyy) for this period of time.

(2) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the servicemember to attend planned medical treatment appointments (scheduled medical visits). Provide your best estimate of the duration of the treatment(s), including any period(s) of recovery ______________________ (e.g. 3 days/week)

(3) Due to the condition, it is medically necessary for the servicemember to receive care on an intermittent basis, such as the care needed because of episodic flare-ups of the condition or assisting with the servicemember’s recovery. Provide your best estimate of how often (frequency) and how long (the duration) the intermittent episodes will likely last. Over the next 6 months, intermittent care is estimated to occur _______ times per (☐ day/☐ week/☐ month) and is likely to last approximately ______________ (☐ hours/☐ days) per episode.

Signature of Health Care Provider: ___________________________ Date: __________________ (mm/dd/yyyy)

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