Coburg Community Charter School Policy

Code:GCBDA/GDBDA Adopted: 2/24/25

Family Leave *

(Version 2)

{The law does not require public charter schools to have a board-adopted policy, but the public charter school is required to follow the law. Having policy and an administrative regulation in place can assist with compliance. This policy is intended for public charter schools with 25 and 50 employees. If the public charter school does not have 25 employees, the public charter school should not adopt this policy.}

When applicable, the public charter school will comply with the provisions of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA){¹}, the Oregon Family Leave Act (OFLA){²}, the Oregon Military Family Leave Act (OMFLA), Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance (PFMLI) and other applicable provisions of state and federal law, Board policies and any employment contracts regarding family medical leave.

In order for an employee to be eligible for the benefits under FMLA, the employee must have been employed by the public charter school for at least 12 months, have worked at least 1,250 hours during the past 12-month period and worked at a worksite that employs 50 or more public charter school employees within 75 miles of the worksite.³

Generally, in order for an employee to be eligible for the benefits under OFLA, the employee must work an average of 25 hours or more per week during the 180 calendar days immediately prior to the first day of the start of the requested leave. Special requirements apply during public health emergencies.

OMFLA applies to employees who work an average of at least 20 hours per week; there is no minimum number of days worked when determining an employee's eligibility for OMFLA.

¹ {Generally, FMLA applies only to entities with 50 or more employees, however, FMLA applies to all public elementary and secondary educational institutions. See 29 CFR 825.600(b). The rule regarding individual employee eligibility does apply: an employee is only eligible if the employee "is employed at a worksite where 50 or more employees are employed by the employer within 75 miles of that worksite." See 29 CFR 825.110(a)(3). Consequently, FMLA applies to public charter schools with fewer than 50 employees, but individual employees will not be eligible to receive benefits.}

² {OFLA applies to employers with 25 or more employees in Oregon (ORS 659A.153) and OMFLA applies to all public-sector employers in Oregon. (ORS 659A.090(2)) (Oregon BOLI Leave Laws – 2023 Edition)}

³ While the public charter school is subject to FMLA, the public charter school does not have any eligible employees. Consequently, FMLA eligibility language has been omitted from this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

PFMLI is generally available to public charter school employees who have earned \$1,000 in subject wages or taxable income during the alternate or base years⁴, contributed to the PFMLI fund in the alternate or base years and are otherwise eligible.⁵ PFMLI can be taken for family leave, medical leave or safe leave.⁶

Leave taken under OFLA is in addition to leave taken under PFMLI and cannot be taken concurrently; however, OFLA leave or PFMLI may run concurrently with other leave available under ORS 653.601 - 653.661 and other types of leave if provided by the public charter school.

The administrator will develop administrative regulations as necessary for the implementation of the provisions of both federal and state law.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

⁴ The wages are not required to have been earned for work in the public charter school.

⁵ See OAR 471-070-1010 for additional information.

⁶ Time to effectuate the legal process for the placement of a child in foster care or a child being adopted qualifies for PFMLI starting January 1, 2025. Until then, leave is available through OFLA. (See SB 1515 (2024) Sections 4, 13, 21 and 25.)

ORS 657B.010 ORS 659A.090 ORS 659A.093 ORS 659A.096 <u>ORS 659A</u>.099 <u>ORS 659A</u>.150 - 659A.186 <u>OAR 839</u>-009-0210-0460

Family and Medical Leave Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 2601-2654; 5 U.S.C. §§ 6381-6387 (2018); Family and Medical Leave Act, 29 C.F.R. Part 825 (2023). Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12133 (2018); 29 C.F.R. Part 1630 (2023); 28 C.F.R. Part 35 (2023). Escriba v. Foster Poultry Farms, Inc. 743 F.3d 1236 (9th Cir. 2014).

Senate Bill 1515 (2024).