

**WAC 357-31-535 Who designates absences which meet the criteria of the Family and Medical Leave Act?** The employer designates absences which meet the criteria of the Family and Medical Leave Act. Paid or unpaid leave used for that designated absence must be counted towards the twelve weeks of the Family and Medical Leave Act entitlement.

Because the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C 2601 et seq) does not recognize registered domestic partners, an absence to care for an employee's registered domestic partner is not counted towards the twelve weeks of the Family and Medical Leave Act entitlement.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 41.06 RCW. WSR 09-17-056 and 09-18-113, § 357-31-535, filed 8/13/09 and 9/2/09, effective 12/3/09; WSR 05-08-140, § 357-31-535, filed 4/6/05, effective 7/1/05.]