

Resources for State Employees Impacted by Recent Fires

If you or a family member are impacted by the fires in California, you may be eligible to receive one or more of the following benefits. For more information about how to request these benefits, please contact your department Personnel Office or the contact information below.

Magellan Wildfire Resources

[Magellan](#) provides free, confidential counseling services and other resources, such as referrals to local non-profit organizations, shelters, and additional community-based support to assist individuals in California as they work to cope with the feelings of fear, sadness, anger, and hopelessness related to these kinds of natural disasters.

The toll-free number, for public at large, to access free, confidential counseling services is 1-800-327-7451. State employees can find information on fire resources on the EAP website.

Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

The [EAP](#) is available 24/7 and provides free confidential counseling services and other resources, such as referrals to local non-profit organizations, shelters, and additional community-based support.

1-866-EAP-4SOC or (1-866-327-4762)

TTY (800) 424-6117

VSP Vision Care

A VSP member who has lost or broken their eyewear or is in need of eye care services due to the wildfires can call the Member Services Support Line at (800) 877-7195.

VSP network doctors can call VSP at (800) 615-1883 to learn about the resources available to them.

Individuals without VSP coverage can contact their [local American Red Cross](#), or call (800) RED-CROSS (733-2767) and request a [VSP Global Eyes of Hope gift certificate](#).

Group Legal Services Insurance (Plan)

Legal resources to help you and your employees recover after the California wildfires.

In the aftermath of the California wildfires, so many of us are dealing with damage and destruction of our homes — and our lives. Visit ARAGlegal.com/fires for resources to help you and your employees with the legal and financial issues caused by the fires. The site includes information on how to protect your rights as a homeowner or renter, who to contact for assistance, what to do if you're the victim of a scam and more.

If you are enrolled in the state's Group Legal Services Insurance Plan and need legal assistance, call 866-762-0972 to speak with a Customer Care Specialist.

Administrative Time Off (ATO)

[ATO](#) is a form of paid leave and may be granted when employees need time off. To be eligible, employees must meet the conditions in the declared State of Emergency, and California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 599.785.5.

Leave of Absence (LOA)

[LOA](#) is an unpaid leave that may last up to one year. This leave allows employees to take time off work with a mandatory right of return when the leave ends.

Catastrophic Leave — Natural Disasters

The [Catastrophic Leave](#) program allows employees who have exhausted their leave credits and must miss work due to a prolonged illness or injury (including that of an eligible family member), or due to a natural disaster, to request catastrophic leave.

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Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)/California Family Rights Act (CFRA)

The [FMLA/CFRA](#) entitles eligible employees to take up to 12 workweeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a calendar year and the continuation of health benefits for specified family and medical leave reasons.

State Disability Insurance (SDI)/Paid Family Leave (PFL) & Non-Industrial Disability Insurance (NDI)

The [SDI](#) and [NDI](#) programs provide partial wage replacement for eligible state employees who have been certified for a non-work related illness or injury. Employees represented by an SEIU bargaining unit are covered by SDI/PFL and all other employees* are covered by NDI. The PFL program provides benefits to eligible employees who need to take time off to care for a qualified family member.

**If you are an excluded employee who is enrolled in the Long Term Disability Insurance Program, you may be eligible for benefits if your disability lasts longer than six months.*

Savings Plus Accounts (401k/457b)

If you have a [Savings Plus](#) supplemental retirement savings account, you may be eligible to withdraw money from your account under certain circumstances, even while still working. Visit the Savings Plus website to see what options may be available. Certain taxes and penalties may apply.

Additional Resources

- [EAP - Wildfire Resources Page](#)
- [EAP - Main Website](#)
- [CalFire – Main Website](#)
- [CalFire - Current Fire Information](#)
- [Wildfire is coming. Are you Ready?](#)
- [Evacuation Tips.](#)
- [Animal Evacuation Tips.](#)
- [Homeowners Checklist – How to make your home fire safe.](#)
- [Before, During and After a Wildfire.](#)