

Health Screenings

~~Governor Patterson has extended the law requiring municipalities and school districts to give paid leave of up to four hours per year for employees undergoing screening for breast or prostate cancer to those who work for organizations participating in the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System.~~

~~The justification for this expansion, according to the sponsors of the bill, is that "early screening is extremely important in detecting cancer, treating it and reducing costs of care. It is critical that this law be extended for in the long run it saves lives and money."~~

Accordingly, The Library will provide up to 4 paid hours annually for such testing **cancer screening**, to include travel times, examinations and/or related blood work. Any absence beyond the 4 hour limit will be charged to annual leave or **be** unpaid. Appointments scheduled outside of regular work hours are not covered. Satisfactory medical documentation that the employee's absence was for the specific purpose of ~~breast or prostate~~ cancer screening is required.

To arrange leave for this purpose, employees are to consult their supervisor to schedule the leave and then submit a "Business Day" form giving the date and hours requested and clearly marked with the reason in advance of the appointment. Upon completion of the test, employees are requested to procure the necessary medical documentation and submit that as well.

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