



## Belk medical leave

The Belk medical leave provides eligible associates unpaid leave for a Serious Health Condition of yourself or to care for a qualified Family Member during a period of Serious Health Condition. The Leave may be for a continuous or intermittent use.

### leave provision

- Medical Leave under this policy can be taken for generally up to 12 months from the date of the onset of the medical condition, as determined by the Leave of Absence administrator, Liberty Mutual, and your treating Health Care Provider.
- Medical Leave may extend beyond 12 months as reasonable accommodation if you are a qualified associate with a disability, provided the leave does not cause an undue hardship to Belk.

### eligibility

- Any full or part-time associate working 20 standard hours or more as of the date of the leave request;
- Who is also not eligible for coverage under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
- Or who meets the criteria for leave of absence as an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA)

### guidelines

- Paid time off hours do not accrue while on a medical leave
- You are not eligible for any paid holidays that are observed during unpaid leave
- Any pay you receive for which you are not eligible will be considered a pay advance or overpayment. The overpayment amount will be reconciled from pay, or otherwise recovered, to the extent permitted by law.

### applying for a Belk Medical Leave

- First, notify your manager and follow the specific requirements of your location for reporting an absence.
- Second, contact Liberty Mutual, Belk's Leave and disability insurance administrator
  - Liberty: 1.800.588.3700, option 1 or [www.mylibertyconnection.com](http://www.mylibertyconnection.com)
- Third, you or your health care provider must submit any required supporting medical documentation within 15 calendar days of contacting the Leave of Absence Administrator. Failure to provide the requested medical information in a timely manner may result in a delay or denial of the leave request.



### [certification requirements](#)

- Once the leave has been requested, the required health care provider certification and request forms must be complete and returned to the Leave of Absence Administrator, Liberty Mutual. Failure to provide the required timely documentation could result in a denial of the leave request or delay the leave start date.
- If the certification is incomplete or insufficient, you will be provided a written notice stating what additional information is necessary to make the certification complete and sufficient. The Leave of Absence Administrator, Liberty Mutual, may contact the health care provider to authenticate or to clarify the certification.
- If a complete and sufficient certification has been received, but the administrator has a reason to doubt that it is valid, you may be required to obtain additional medical certification(s). Liberty Mutual may choose the health care provider to provide the additional opinions, but generally may not select a health care provider who it employs on a regular or routine basis. Liberty Mutual is responsible for paying for the additional opinions, including any reasonable travel expenses for you or the family member. While waiting for the additional opinions, you are provisionally entitled to medical leave.

### [benefits coverage](#)

- While on leave, associates are eligible to continue to participate in most health and insurance plans provided through Belk's Group Benefits Program.
- You must continue to timely pay any required contributions. While on unpaid leave, you will receive a bill for your required contributions. Failure to timely pay required contributions will result in termination of health and insurance benefits coverage.
- Belk will continue to pay the company portion of your health and insurance benefits from the date the leave begins as long as your required contributions are paid.
- While on an unpaid leave of absence, where applicable, Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and Health Savings Account (HAS) contributions cease and Long-term Disability coverage stops.

### [extension of leave](#)

- During an approved leave and prior to the expected return to work date, if you would like to extend your medical leave, you should contact your manager to provide an updated anticipated return date. In addition, you should contact Liberty Mutual to request an extension of the leave.

### [returning to work from the leave](#)

- For leaves involving associate's own health condition(s), associate may not return to work without written approval from their medical provider. Liberty Mutual will provide the associate on leave with



Return to Work documentation. This documentation should be completed by the medical provider and returned to Liberty Mutual.

- The associate is expected to return to work on the first business day immediately following the conclusion of a medical leave if an appropriate position is available.
- Failure to return to work immediately following leave may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination. If while on leave an associate decides not to return to work at Belk, the associate must notify their manager as soon as possible.

### [policy definitions](#)

#### Family Member

- Spouse means a husband or wife as defined or recognized under state law for purposes of marriage in the state where the associate resides, including “common law” marriage and same sex marriage.
- Parent means a biological, adoptive, step or foster father or mother, or any other individual who stood in loco parentis to the associate when the associate was a child. This term does not include parents “in law.”
- Son or daughter means a biological, adopted or foster child, a stepchild, a legal ward, or a child of a person standing in loco parentis, who is either under age 18 or age 18 or older and “incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability” at the time that leave is to commence.
- In Loco Parentis, Belk will follow the FMLA definition in loco parentis as including those with day-to-day responsibilities to care for or financially support a child. Associates who have no biological or legal relationship with a child may, nonetheless, stand in loco parentis to the child and be entitled to leave. Similarly, an associate may take leave to care for someone who, although having no legal or biological relationship to the associate when the associate was a child, stood in loco parentis to the associate when the associate was a child, even if they have no legal or biological relationship.

#### Health Care Provider

- Doctors of medicine or osteopathy authorized to practice medicine or surgery by the state in which the doctor practices.
- Podiatrists, dentists, clinical psychologists, optometrists and chiropractors authorized to practice and performing within the scope of the practice, under the law.
- Nurse practitioners, nurse-midwives, clinical social workers and physician assistants who are authorized to practice in the state and performing within the scope of their practice as defined under state law.
- Christian Science Practitioners listed with the First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts
- Any health care provider recognized by Belk Group Benefits Program or its group health plan insurer



or claims administrator.

#### Serious health condition

- Serious health condition means an illness, injury, impairment or physical or mental condition that involves
  - Any period of incapability or treatment connected with inpatient care (i.e., an overnight stay) in a hospital, hospice or residential medical care facility; or
  - A period of incapacity requiring absence for more than three (3) calendar days from work, school, or other regular daily activities that also involves continuing treatment by (or under the supervision of) a health care provider; or
  - Any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or for prenatal care; or
  - Any period of incapacity (or treatment therefore) due to a chronic serious health condition (e.g. asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, etc.); or
  - A period of incapacity that is permanent or long-term due to a condition for which treatment may not be effective (e.g. Alzheimer's, stroke, terminal diseases, etc.); or
  - Any absences to receive multiple treatments (including any period of recovery therefrom) by, or on referral by a health care provider for a condition that likely would result in incapacity of more than five (5) consecutive days if left untreated (e.g. chemotherapy, physical therapy, dialysis, etc.)

Notice of Disclaimer: This policy is subject to change at any time with or without notice, and Belk reserves the right to interpret the policy at its sole discretion. This policy doesn't establish enforceable employee rights, contractual or otherwise and does not alter the at-will employment status of any associate.