Temp Workers: Know Your Work Rights!





This presentation provides general information, not legal opinion.

The NJ Register and the NJ Administrative Code remain the official sources for regulatory information published by the NJDOL.

These slides were drafted with the assistance of Generative AI.

Key definitions

See the legal definition in the <u>law</u>.

Temporary Workers

A temporary worker is someone who is employed by a "temporary help service firm" for a specific type of work.

The law refers to them as "temporary laborers."

Temp Agencies

Temp agencies

- Hire people to help other companies with temporary, extra, or special tasks
- Pay their employees' wages
- Are responsible for employee actions while they are working for their third-party clients

The law refers to them as "temporary help service firms."

Third-party clients

Temp agencies assign temporary workers to third-party clients, also known as client companies. This is where a temporary worker performs their job.



Temporary Workers Bill of Rights

All temporary workers are protected under Wage and Hour Law. Some types of temporary workers, defined by statute, are covered under the Temporary
Workers Bill of Rights.

Many temp workers have additional workplace rights and protections

- The Temp Workers Bill of Rights went fully into effect in August 2023.
- Establishes requirements that the temp agency and third-party client must follow.
- Addresses things like assignment rules and notifications, record keeping, fees, payments, transportation, and retaliation.

Certain types of temporary workers are covered

- Some of the most common types of work covered by the law are warehouse work, moving and maintenance, and construction. But there are many more.
- The law defines covered work (called designated classification placements) using codes from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
 - Food preparation and serving (35-0000 Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations)
 - Production such as **laundry and dry cleaning**, **food processing**, **textile and wood workers** (51-0000 Production Occupations)
 - Construction (47-30000 Helpers, Construction Trades; 47-2060 Construction Laborers)

Certain types of temporary workers are covered (cont'd)

- Transportation and moving such as drivers, parking attendants, and material moving (53-0000 Transportation and Material Moving Occupations)
- Personal care and service, such as amusement, entertainment, and dressing room attendants (39-0000 Personal Care and Service Occupations)
- Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance such as janitors, cleaners and landscaping workers (37-0000 Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations)
- Protective service such as security guards and crossing guards (33-9000 Other Protective Service Workers)
- Installation, maintenance and repair (49-0000 Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations)

Immigrants are protected too

- NJDOL does not ask about immigration or citizenship status and serves all workers regardless of immigration status.
- NJDOL will not share any information, including with immigration agencies, unless required by law or regulations.
- Depending on an immigrant worker's situation, NJDOL may be able to assist with <u>immigration relief</u>.



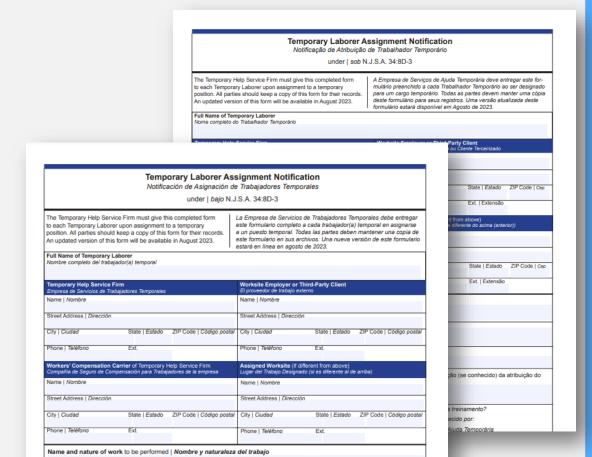
Temp agencies are <u>required</u> to share some notifications with you.

- Temp agencies must share them in a language you understand
- NJDOL has <u>posted</u> some example forms in multiple languages
- We recommend you keep copies. They have important information, and sometimes temp agencies do not follow the law.

Required
Notifications in
your language

Required— Assignment Notification statement

- The temp agency must provide you with this when you are sent to work
- This form includes work details, pay, and work rights



Assignment changes — notice & required pay



No work at scheduled assignment:

Receive a minimum of four hours pay at the agreed upon hourly rate



Worksite changed from original schedule during the same shift: Receive a minimum of two hours of pay at the original rate of pay, plus any hours worked at the new location.

For multi-day assignments: You should get 48-hour notices of schedule, shift, or location changes, when possible.

Assignment changes – signed confirmation

If there is no work available, you can ask for signed, written confirmation from the temp agency that you sought work that day.

The confirmation should include:

- name of temp agency
- your name and address
- date and time you received the confirmation

Transportation Guidelines

Temp agencies and third-party clients must follow rules when transporting temporary workers to and from the worksite:

- The agency can't require you to use transportation that they provide
- The agency or third-party client can't charge you for transportation they provide you to and from the worksite.
- If the temp agency provides you with transportation, it cannot allow a vehicle to transport you if:
 - they know or should know that the vehicle is unsafe
 - if the vehicle is not insured
 - the driver of the vehicle does not hold a valid license to operate the vehicle
 - or if the vehicle does not have a seat and safety belt for each passenger.



Purchasing equipment, clothing, and accessories

- You can purchase equipment, clothing, and other items from the temp agency.
- The temp agency must provide it at "cost." This means the temp agency can't make a profit from selling these things to you.

Providing meals

- Temp agencies cannot charge you for meals you don't eat.
- You decide if you want to purchase the meal.
- Temp agencies may only provide meals at "cost". This means the temp agency can't make a profit from selling meals to you.

Pay equity

Temp workers' rate of pay and cost of benefit must be at least the same as the average rate of pay and average cost of benefits (or cash equivalent) of employees of the third-party client doing the same or substantially similar work under similar working conditions.

- Substantially similar work means the job requires the same skill, effort and responsibility.
 - Skill—measured by factors such as the experience, ability, education and training someone needs to perform the job.
 - **Effort**—the amount of physical or mental exertion someone needs to **perform the job**.
 - Responsibility—degree of accountability and discretion required to perform a job.
 - Working conditions—means the physical surroundings and hazards. This does not include job shifts.

Bi-weekly payments and other payment rights

- You can request the temp agency pay you every other week instead of daily. The temp agency must provide you written notification of this right.
- You can request payment in check, cash, or direct deposit.

Pay stub requirements

The temporary agency must provide this information to you using this **NJDOL form or in your paystub.**

- Name and address of third-party clients
- Number of hours worked for each third-party client
- Rate of pay, including overtime
- Total earnings
- Any deductions
- The maximum fee a temp agency can charge a third-party client to hire a temp worker directly
- The total amount the temp agency charged the third-party client for your services in that pay period.
- The total cost of benefits the temp agency provided to the temp worker in that pay period.

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Some fees are not allowed

The temp agency cannot charge you for transportation, check cashing, consumer reports, criminal background checks, or drug tests.

Accepting a permanent position

You can accept a permanent position with a third-party client.



- The temp agency can charge a placement fee to the third-party client.
- They cannot charge you a fee.

You can refuse assignment during strikes

- Temp agencies must tell you in writing about a strike, lockout, or other labor dispute at a workplace they assign you to.
- You can refuse to work at those workplaces.

Temp agencies must certify with NJ Division of Consumer Affairs

- Temp agencies must be certified by the Director of the NJ <u>Division of Consumer</u>
 <u>Affairs</u> (DCA) within the Department of Law and Public Safety to make "designated classification placements."
- NJDOL does not enforce these certification provisions. They are enforced by DCA.



Record keeping

A temp agency must keep records relating to the assignment of temporary workers in designated classification placements for six years.

Required— Single-Day Work Verification form

Temporary Laborer Single-Day Work Verific				r Temporal bajo de un Solo	Día
By law, a Third-Party Client must provide the information contained in this form to each Temporary Laborer in a designated classification placement who is contracted to work a single day, at the end of the work day.		A. 34.80-6 — Por ley, un Cliente de Terceros debe proveer la información contenida en este formulario a cada Trabajador/Trabajadora Temporal en una colocación de clasificación designada a quien se contrata para trabajar un solo día, al final de la jornada laboral.			
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- The third-party client must complete this work verification form and provide it to you when you work a single day (as opposed to a multi-day assignment).
- They must provide it to you at the end of the workday.

If your employer does not follow the law

File a complaint with NJDOL

- Keep track of the hours you worked, pay, and the contact information of both the temp agency and third-party client.
- Complaints can be filed <u>online</u> through our secure system (En línea con nuestro sistema seguro) or <u>by mail or fax.</u>
- In the section titled "Complaint Reason Details", please check "Other" and enter information about your complaint regarding a violation of the Temporary Workers Bill of Rights.

If your employer does not follow the law (cont'd)

File a complaint with NJDOL

- A trusted person, including a representative from a union or community-based organization, can help you file a complaint or email us on your behalf.
- For more details, <u>contact us.</u>
 We will make every effort to provide assistance in your language.
- NJDOL will protect your identity when you file a complaint.

More filing tips

- Answer accurately and submit copies, not originals, of all relevant documents
- Groups of employees must file separate complaints.
- You may be asked to provide additional details (i.e. employer information, hours worked)

After filing

- **1. If you file online**, you receive a confirmation number
- 2. Investigative process: nj.gov/labor/investigate
- 3. Check <u>wagehour.nj.gov</u> with your confirmation number
- 4. Your employer may be contacted.
- 5. Notification of results.

To inquire about a paper complaint or for other questions, call (609)292-2305 or email wage.hour@dol.nj.gov. We will make every effort to provide assistance in your language.

Confidentiality

If you file a complaint, NJDOL will not disclose your identity and other personally identifiable information (PII) to your employer and others without your written permission to do so. These rules were strengthened in 2020 to better protect workers.

Confidentiality

In rare cases, NJDOL may be required to disclose your identity and/or other PII. For example, a wage proceeding could end up in court and the judge could require it. Or another government agency could compel NJDOL to disclose PII. NJDOL cannot provide PII to a government agency if your complaint was filed against them.

A law enforcement agent could also request PII from NJDOL, but they must provide a signed request and warrant, and certify they'll keep identifying information confidential.

Wage collection:

Sometimes, we direct complaints to Wage Collection. These are formal hearings to resolve disputes between employers and employees over the payment of wages up to \$50,000.00. The proceedings are recorded, and employers and employees are sworn in and required to provide evidence to prove their claim. In this case, your identity will become known to your employer through the summons complaint, and they will be present at the hearing. You decide if you want to pursue a Wag

Filing anonymously

- Your identity is kept confidential to the greatest extent allowable under the law.
 NJDOL will not share any information, including with immigration agencies, unless required by law or regulations.
- To file anonymously, file by mail or fax. Write "ANONYMOUS" in the name section of the complaint form and leave address blank. You won't receive information about your complaint or be able to check its status.

Private Right of Action



- You can file a complaint with NJDOL and/or bring a civil action in the Superior Court in the county where the violation happened, or where you live.
- You can bring such an action in the Superior Court within six years of the final date of your employment with the temporary agency or within six years from the date the contract between the temporary agency and the third-party client ended.

Private Right of Action (cont'd)

- You can pursue a complaint with NJDOL at the same time as your civil action suit. You might get relief under both.
- Only Superior Court can order monetary damages or equitable relief to impacted workers. This includes reinstatement when a temp agency retaliates against a worker.
- NJDOL penalties are paid to the Department.

Protection from retaliation

The temp agency or third-party client you are working for cannot punish you for:



Filing a complaint or participating in an investigation



Complaining about a violation of the law to a temp agency, a third-party client, a coworker or a community organization;

Filing a complaint with a State or federal agency, or with the Superior Court;



Testifying or preparing to testify in an investigation

Punishment includes firing, disciplinary action, cutting pay or hours, or other adverse actions.

Employers breaking this law may face penalties.



Rebuttable Presumption

- If the temp agency, fires you or takes any disciplinary action against you within 90 days of you exercising your rights under the Temporary Workers Bill of Rights, there will be a "rebuttable presumption" that the firing or disciplinary action was retaliation.
- When there is a "rebuttable presumption," your employer must prove that the firing or disciplinary action was not retaliation.

Additional protections for immigrants

Employers cannot disclose, or threaten to disclose, your immigration status to hide that they broke certain laws. If they do, they face bigger penalties.

NJDOL can issue a certification in support of a U/T visa application. U/T visas are for victims of certain crimes and human trafficking.

Learn more at nj.gov/labor/immigrants

More work rights myworkrights.nj.gov

My Work Rights

Safety and

Leave and

More Work Protections *

Laws and Regulations 7 Information for **Employers**



Information on work rights and benefits in **New Jersey**

Haga clic en el botón "Translate" en la esquina superior derecha de esta página para verla en



Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights

New information for workers and employers.

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Wages and Overtime Receive proper

wages and overtime.

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Safety and Health

You're entitled to a safe and healthy workplace.



Paid Leave

you covered.

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and Benefits New Jersey has

LEARN MORE >



More Work **Protections**

Certain jobs benefit from unique protections.

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Employer Retaliation

All workers, regardless of immigration status, are protected.

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Information for **Employers**

Know your legal obligations.

LEARN MORE >



Laws and Regulations

Understand NJ labor and leave laws.

LEARN MORE >

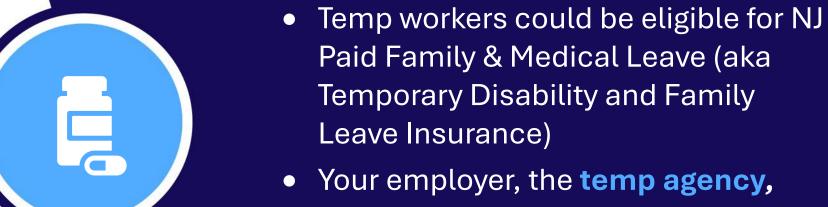
NJ Earned Sick Leave



- Temp agencies must provide all it's employees, including temporary workers, with up to 40 hours of earned sick leave per year to care for themselves or a loved one.
- If you use your sick time, your employer, the temp agency, pays you.
- They can not make you find coverage for your shift.

Learn more at mysickdays.nj.gov

Paid Family & Medical Leave



- Your employer, the temp agency, must set up payroll contributions for you.
- Learn more and apply at myleavebenefits.nj.gov



- Temp workers could be eligible for unemployment benefits, if they lose work from the temp agency and are not offered similar replacement work.
- Your employer, the temp agency, must set up payroll contributions for you.
- Learn more and apply at myunemployment.nj.gov.



THANK YOU