

## **Illinois Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA) Leave**

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In accordance with the Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA), Garrett-Evangelical allows employees who are victims of domestic or sexual violence (including dating violence or stalking) or who have family or household members who are victims of such violence, to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave in any 12-month period. The purpose of this leave is to seek medical help, legal assistance, counseling, safety planning, and other assistance. Since this is unpaid leave, employees have the option of using accrued sick days or vacation days for the time away from work.