



Notice to Employees

Domestic and Interpersonal Violence Related Leave

Massachusetts employers are now legally required to permit regular full and part-time employees to take up to 15 days of leave from work per year if the employee or employee's family member is a victim of interpersonal violence, including domestic and dating violence, stalking, sexual assault and kidnapping. The leave must be directly related to the abusive behavior, including, but not limited to: seeking medical attention, counseling, victim services or legal assistance; finding alternative housing; appearing in court; meeting with law enforcement officials; and attending child custody hearings.

Employees can request this leave by contacting Human Resources at 617-353-2380. For more information, see the Domestic Violence Leave Policy in Section 317 of the BU Employee Handbook.

Help for Those Affected by Interpersonal Violence

If you are concerned that you or someone you care about is affected by interpersonal violence, you may want to discuss it with a counselor experienced in assisting victims/survivors of abuse.

BU's **Faculty and Staff Assistance Office** provides **free and confidential**:

- Counseling and advocacy
- Safety planning for home and work
- Assistance accessing community resources
- Coordination with BUPD, Human Resources, Equal Opportunity Office and other internal and external resources when appropriate

Uncertain whether your relationship is abusive? Does your partner:

- Put you down?
- Scare you or loses his/her temper quickly?
- Hit, push, choke, restrain or physically harm you (or your children or pets) in any way?
- Pressure you or force you to have sex?
- Demand to know where you are at all times?
- Make it difficult for you to see family and friends?
- Take your money or prevent from having access to money?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may want to discuss it with a counselor at the Faculty & Staff Assistance Office: 617-353-5381, 617-638-5381, or fsao@bu.edu.

You'll find more information about abuse and interpersonal violence on the FSAO website:
<http://www.bu.edu/fsao/resources/interpersonal-violence/>