

**Leave Policy.** Illinois employees may take unpaid leave under the Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act ("VESSA") to seek assistance in response to an act or threat of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. You may take this leave to seek services for a victim of domestic or sexual violence if the victim is: 1) yourself, 2) a covered family member (spouse, child, parent, other person related by blood or present or prior marriage, other person who shares a relationship through a child) or 3) a household member (who is currently residing with you). VESSA leave is not allowed, however, if the employee's interests regarding the violent act are adverse to the victim's interests. The employee may take leave for a child who is a victim if that child is under age 18 or, if 18 years or older, the child is mentally or physically disabled and incapable of self-care. You are eligible to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid VESSA leave within any 12-month period and be restored to the same or an equivalent position upon your return from leave.