

BREAK RULES

Fox Valley Offices
4425 North Market Street - 3rd Floor
Wilmington, DE 19802
(302) 761-8200

Georgetown American Job Center
8 Georgetown Plaza, Suite 2
Georgetown, DE 19947
(302) 856-5230



Blue Hen Corporate Center
655 S Bay Road, Ste. 2H
Dover, DE 19901
(302) 422-1134

Delaware Department of Labor Division of Industrial Affairs

BREAKS

All employees must be offered a meal break of at least 30 consecutive minutes if the employee is scheduled to work 7.5 or more hours per day.

Must be after the first 2 hours of work and before the last 2 hours of work.

This rule does not apply when:

- The employee is a professional employee certified by the State Board of Education and employed by a local school board to work directly with children.
- There is a collective bargaining agreement or other employer-employee written agreement which provides otherwise.

Rules have been issued granting exemptions when:

- Compliance would adversely affect public safety.
- Only one (1) employee may perform the duties of a position.
- An employer has fewer than five (5) employees on a shift at one location (the exception would only apply to that shift).
- The continuous nature of an employer's operations, such as chemical production or research experiments, requires employees to respond to urgent or unusual conditions at all times and the employees are compensated for their meal breaks.

Where exemptions are allowed, employees must be allowed to eat meals at their work stations or other authorized locations and use restroom facilities as reasonably necessary.

It is unlawful to retaliate against an employee because (s)he has made a complaint or given information to the Dept of Labor about possible labor law violations.

EMPLOYERS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO DISPLAY THIS OFFICIAL POSTER IN A PLACE ACCESSIBLE TO EMPLOYEES AND WHERE THEY REGULARLY PASS.

Violations of Delaware Labor Laws could result in fines of up to \$10,000 per violation.

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