

Noodles & Company Adds Groundbreaking Maternity Leave Transition Program To Parental Benefits Package

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Noodles & Company's package adds unique phase-out, phase-in benefit to make maternity leave transition easier for team members

BROOMFIELD, Colo., Sept. 18, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- Noodles & Company (NASDAQ: NDLS), known for serving classic noodle, zoodle and pasta dishes from around the world, today announced a unique addition to its Life@Noodles benefits initiative, which aims to make Noodles & Company one of the best places to work in the fast-casual industry. Effective Jan. 1, 2019, qualifying expecting and postpartum mothers will be able to phase-out and phase-in to their maternity leave, allowing them to work an 80 percent schedule the four weeks before and the four weeks after maternity leave while receiving 100 percent pay.



<u>Research shows</u> that after giving birth, one in nine women experience postpartum depression, in addition to sleep deprivation and difficulty managing breastfeeding. Reentering the work world too quickly can increase work-related concerns and compound those issues. Phasing out of maternity leave allows mothers time to balance their work and personal lives and creates a work environment where employees can thrive.

"Transitioning to and from maternity leave can be a difficult time for mothers. Through our Life@Noodles initiative, we strive to make that adjustment easier for our team members," said Dave Boennighausen, chief executive officer of Noodles & Company. "This phase-out, phase-in program, which is unavailable elsewhere in the fast-casual industry, added to our already robust maternity, paternity and adoption benefits and reflects our commitment to nourishing and inspiring our Noodles & Company team. Our team members work hard for us, and we want to express our gratitude by offering top-of-the-line benefits that support them in and out of the workplace."

Other family-focused benefits offered at Noodles & Company include:

- Six weeks of fully paid maternity leave and expanded parental leave.
- Adoption assistance of up to \$10,000.
- Breast milk shipment during business travel.
- Flexible time off for corporate team members.

Additional ways Noodles & Company supports all its employees include student loan debt assistance and competitive standard benefits, such as dental and vision coverage, employee assistance programs, and 401(k) retirement plans. Additionally, assistant general managers and above can take advantage of Noodles & Company's medical and life insurance and disability coverage offerings.

To learn more about career opportunities and perks at Noodles & Company, visit Noodles.com/careers/perks.

About Noodles & Company

Since 1995, Noodles & Company has been serving noodles your way, from noodles and flavors that you know and love, to new ones you're about to discover for the first time. From indulgent Wisconsin Mac & Cheese to good-for-you Zoodles, Noodles serves a world of flavor in every bowl. Made up

of more than 450 restaurants and 10,000 passionate team members, Noodles is dedicated to nourishing and inspiring every guest who walks through the door. To learn more or find the location nearest you, visit <u>www.noodles.com</u>.

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