

# Resources for Maryland's Federal Workers and Contractors Impacted by Job Loss, Furloughs, and Federal Government Shutdowns

For the most comprehensive information, Marylanders can access the <u>state resource page</u> and <u>MD Labor resource page</u> for workers impacted by recent federal actions.

#### Unemployment Insurance

- Federal workers and contractors experiencing job loss or furloughs may be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits.
  - A dedicated webpage—<u>labor.maryland.gov/federalworkers</u>—links to information about both <u>Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees</u> (UCFE) and the <u>state unemployment insurance program</u> for non-federal workers, which includes federal contractors in the private sector.
  - Steps to Prepare for a Reduction in Force is a quick-reference guide on what federal employees can do now to help them in the event they need to apply for unemployment insurance benefits in the future.
- **Furloughed federal employees and contractors** can access details specific to their situation at a dedicated <u>unemployment insurance page with FAQs.</u>
- Former federal workers who participated in the Deferred Resignation Program and have reached their resignation date (are no longer on administrative leave) may be eligible for <u>unemployment insurance benefits</u>. Eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis, and includes an assessment of whether their departure was voluntary or involuntary.

## Reemployment Support

- Maryland's <u>American Job Centers</u> and <u>Professional Outplacement Assistance Center</u> provide in-person and virtual services, like: résumé workshops, individualized career guidance, mock interviews, effective job search strategies, coping support, networking help, and more.
- Our <u>expert-led virtual workshop</u> on career transition for federal workers and contractors is held every Wednesday, 9 a.m.-noon. To sign up, email <u>FedWorker.Transition@maryland.gov</u>.
- Jobseekers can find **job fairs** for former federal employees and contractors at the bottom of <u>labor.maryland.gov/federalworkers</u>, plus a link to our broader job fair calendar.
- Maryland is seeking people interested in **teaching careers**. Visit <u>teach.maryland.gov</u>.
- See our resource guide (guía de recursos en español) for more information.

### Federal Worker Emergency Loan Program

- Maryland residents who have been **recently terminated from federal employment** due to mass layoff, relocation, closure of a unit of federal government, or similar circumstance, and are experiencing financial hardship, may be eligible for a <u>Federal Worker Emergency Loan</u>.
- This \$700 no-interest loan must be paid back within 180 days, with a possible 90-day extension. Apply online at <a href="mailto:mdol.submittable.com/submit">mdol.submittable.com/submit</a>.
- Furloughed federal employees are not eligible for this loan program, but may be eligible for <u>unemployment insurance</u>.

## Federal Shutdown Loan Program

- Maryland residents who are current federal employees designated as "excepted" (also called "essential"), and are required to work without pay during a federal government shutdown, may be eligible for the <u>Federal Shutdown Loan Program</u> to help pay for expenses like food and rent.
- This \$700 no-interest loan must be repaid 45 days after the shutdown ends, giving workers time to receive their back pay from the federal government. Apply online at <a href="mailto:mdol.submittable.com/submit">mdol.submittable.com/submit</a>.
- Furloughed federal employees are not eligible for this loan program, but may be eligible for <u>unemployment insurance</u>.

#### More resources to meet critical needs

• Information on help with **housing, health coverage, food assistance, legal needs,** and resources for **veterans** is available on the <u>dedicated Maryland.gov page</u> for workers impacted by federal actions.