Unemployment Insurance (UI) for Federal Employees During a Shutdown

Who Can Apply

- You **can apply** if you are a **federal employee furloughed** (not working or working reduced hours) due to the shutdown.
- You **cannot apply** if you are still working full-time (even without pay).

Where to File

- File in the **state where your federal job is located**, not necessarily where you live – unless you're stationed outside the U.S. If you're stationed outside the U.S., file in the state where you live.
    - **Example:** Live in Ohio, work in California → file in **California**.

What You'll Need

- Proof of federal wages (for example, pay stubs, W-2s).
- You may receive an **affidavit** to report your wages. Normally, employers provide wage information, but as a federal employee, you must complete and return this affidavit to report your wages yourself.
- We'll also send a request for information to the federal agency you worked for. If your agency can't respond due to the shutdown, we'll use your affidavit and documents to process your claim.

How to Apply

- **Go to** unemployment.ohio.gov.
    - Click **"I am an Unemployed Worker"** → then **"Apply/Login"**
- **Need help?**
    - Use the **Claimant Unemployment Program Inquiry Form** under "Contact Us" on the website.
    - Call: **1-877-644-6562** (TTY: 1-800-750-0750)
      Hours: **Mon–Fri, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.** (Best times: Wed–Fri, early in the day)

How to Submit Documents

Choose ONE of the following:

- **Online – Your Account** (fastest): Log into your account at unemployment.ohio.gov and respond to requests. Watch this video tutorial for help.
- **Online – "Contact Us" Form**: Use the **Claimant Unemployment Program Inquiry Form** under "Contact Us" on the website.
- **Fax**: 1-614-466-7449
- **Mail**:
  Office of Unemployment Insurance Operations
  P.O. Box 182212
  Columbus, OH 43218-2212

  Always include your **full name**, **claimant ID**, or **last 4 digits of your Social Security number**.

Eligibility Requirements

- At least **20 weeks of work** and an **average weekly wage of at least $338 in the last 12-18 months before your work ended**.
- Use the Benefits Estimator to check your eligibility.

After You Apply

- **File weekly claims** to stay eligible, even while waiting for approval.
- Complete **2 work-search activities per week** and report them.
- Claims are usually processed within **4 weeks**.

If You Get Backpay

- If you receive **backpay** for the same weeks you got UI benefits, you'll need to **repay** those benefits.