

Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE)

• About UCFE

UCFE provides unemployment insurance (UI) benefits to **former federal civilian employees** who are unemployed due to no fault of their own. To receive UCFE, you must have **separated** from federal civilian employment in the **last 18 months**.

Apply for federal **UCFE benefits in Maryland** if:

- your last official duty station was in Maryland; or,
- you are a Maryland resident and your last official duty station was outside of the United States; or,
- you separated from federal employment, and then worked in non-federal employment in Maryland.

★ **Your duty station** is listed on your **SF-50** (see Required Documents section below).

• Apply for UCFE

In Maryland, applicants may apply for UCFE (also called filing an initial claim):

- **online** in the Maryland UI Portal (BEACON) (beacon.labor.maryland.gov); or;
- by calling **667-207-6520** (Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).

For more, see How to Apply For and Collect Benefits
(labor.maryland.gov/employment/claimfaq.shtml)

• Required Documents

When you apply for UCFE, you will need your:

- **SF-8**, Notice to Federal Employee About Unemployment Insurance form, and;
- **SF-50**, Notification of Personnel Action form.

Federal employers generally provide these forms to their employees upon separation.

• Benefit Determination

After you apply for UCFE, you will receive a **benefit determination** (in BEACON and through your preferred communication method, which you select when you apply for UI benefits).

The determination will include whether you are **eligible for UCFE**, your **weekly benefit amount** (see the Weekly Benefit Amount section on page 2), and more.

★ You may receive a **second determination** with an **updated weekly benefit amount**.

• Appeals

If you are not eligible for UI benefits, you may **file an appeal** (instructions are included on your benefit determination). Your former employer may also appeal a determination that awards benefits to you.

See the UI Appeals webpage (labor.maryland.gov/uiappeals) for more.

• Weekly Benefit Amount

Your **weekly benefit amount (WBA)** (fixed, weekly UI benefit payment eligible individuals will receive from the Division) will range from a **\$50** (minimum) to **\$430** (maximum).

Generally, your WBA is based on your earnings in a one-year period (that occurred within the last 18 months). You may receive **up to 26 weeks** of UI benefits.

NOTE: You may choose to have taxes withheld from your UI benefits when you file an initial claim.

• Eligibility Requirements

After you apply, you must meet **eligibility requirements to receive UI benefits each week**, which include:

- be **able and available for work** and meet [job search requirements](#);
- file [weekly claim certifications](#);
- accept **suitable work**, when offered;
- **report all payments** you received/know you will receive (any wages, self-employment income, commission payments, your first payment from a pension you did not previously report, etc.) on your weekly claim certification; and,
- be **available or contact** the **Division** and/or the **Maryland Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning (DWDAL)** when instructed. You may be selected for a mandatory Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) workshop.

For more, see How to Apply For and Collect Benefits (labor.maryland.gov/employment/claimfaq.shtml).

• Additional Information

For more about UI benefits in Maryland, visit MDunemployment.com. If you have questions, call **667-207-6520** (Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).