



Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE)

About UCFE

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

Apply for UCFE in Maryland if:

- your last official duty station (for federal civilian employment) was in Maryland,
- you are a Maryland resident and your official duty station was outside of the U.S., or
- you are a Maryland resident who left federal employment and later worked in covered employment in Maryland.

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

If none of those criteria apply to you, apply for UCFE in the **U.S. state or district where your duty station is located** or in your **state or district of residence** (if your duty station was outside of the U.S. or you separated from federal employment and then worked in non-federal employment).

Required Documentation

When an initial claim is filed, UCFE applicants will need:

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

Federal employers provide these forms to their employees upon separation.

Filing a UCFE Claim

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

- online in **BEACON** (beacon.labor.maryland.gov); and,
- by phone at **667-207-6520**.

For more information about filing, see:

- **Information for New Claimants**
(labor.maryland.gov/employment/new-filers.shtml)

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for UCFE in Maryland, you must:

- be unemployed due to no fault of their own
- have earned sufficient wages during a standard or alternate base period; and,
- be able and available to work.

For more about UI base periods, see the **Claims Filing - Initial Claims FAQs** (labor.maryland.gov/employment/claimfaq.shtml).

Eligibility Determination and Appeals

After you apply, the Division will send you a Statement of Wages and Monetary Determination, which will include whether you are eligible for UCFE and your weekly benefit amount.

- **Appeals** - If you do not agree with your determination, you may file an appeal (instructions are included on your determination). Your former employer may also appeal a determination that awards benefits to you.
- See the **UI Appeals web page** (labor.maryland.gov/uiappeals/) for more.

Ongoing Eligibility Requirements

You must meet Maryland's eligibility requirements to receive UI benefits each week, which include:

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| • being able and available for work and meeting work search requirements ; |
| • filing weekly claim certifications ; |
| • accepting suitable work , when offered; |
| • reporting all payments you received/know you will receive (such as wages, including from permanent, temporary, or part-time work, self-employment income, commission payments, your first payment from a pension you did not previously report, etc.) on your weekly claim certification. <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ If you receive certain payments (severance, vacation, holiday, bonus, back pay or damages, or other special payments) after filing an initial claim, call a claims agent at 667-207-6520. |
| • being available and contacting the Division and/or the Maryland Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning (DWDAL) when instructed to do so. You may be selected for a mandatory Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) workshop. |

See the **Eligibility Requirements FAQs** (labor.maryland.gov/employment/claimfaq.shtml) for more.

Weekly Benefit Amount

Your weekly benefit amount (WBA), or the amount of benefits a claimant may be entitled to each week, is based on your earnings during a standard or alternate base period. For more about base periods, see the **Eligibility Requirements FAQs** (labor.maryland.gov/employment/claimfaq.shtml).

- In Maryland, the **minimum WBA is \$50** and the **maximum is \$430**.
- **Tax Information** - UCFE benefits are subject to federal income tax. You may choose to have federal taxes withheld from UCFE benefits (when you file an initial claim). You can also update your withholding status in BEACON (log in, navigate to the Quick Actions section of the homepage, select the Change Tax Withholding link, and follow the prompts).
 - You will receive **Form 1099-G** to complete your income tax return.

Additional Information

To learn more about UI benefits in Maryland, see MDunemployment.com.