



FEMA

October 8, 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: FEMA Non-Exempt Employee

FROM: Corey J. Coleman   
Acting Chief Component Human Capital Officer

SUBJECT: Notice about Unemployment Insurance

This notice and attached form is provided to you because you were placed in a nonpay/furlough status. Since the duration of the furlough is not known at this time, the attached Standard Form (SF) 8, "Notice to Federal Employee about Unemployment Insurance" is provided to you in the event you choose to file a claim under the Department of Labor's Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program.

Unemployment compensation requirements differ from state to state. In general, the state in which an employee's last official duty station in Federal civilian service was located will determine eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits. See the Department of Labor website for additional information regarding unemployment insurance for Federal employees.

- <http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/unemcomp.asp>
- <http://www.dol.gov/sequestration/ui-federalemployees.htm>
- <http://www.dol.gov/dol/shutdown/UI-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

Employees should submit questions to the appropriate state (or District of Columbia) office. The Department of Labor's website provides links to individual state offices at <http://www.servicelocator.org/OWSLinks.asp>.

To submit your unemployment application you will need the following documents:

- SF 8, Notice to Federal Employee about Unemployment Insurance
- Latest SF 50, Notification of Personnel Action

To obtain your most recent SF 50, you will need to access the eOPF (Electronic Official Personnel Folder) system. eOPF can be accessed from any computer. To access your eOPF, go to <https://eopf.nbc.gov/dhs/> and click "Accept". Once redirected, if you have forgotten your ID or password, you can reset it from this page.

Questions can be directed to [FEMA-HC-mypaysolutions@dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-HC-mypaysolutions@dhs.gov).

**TAKE THIS FORM WITH YOU IF YOU GO TO FILE A CLAIM**

**UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES (UCFE) PROGRAM**

**NOTICE TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEE ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

This form has been given to you because (1) you have been separated from your job, or (2) you were placed in a nonpay status, or (3) your records have been transferred to a different payroll office.

*Unemployment insurance (UI) for Federal workers.* When unemployed, Federal workers may be entitled to UI benefits similar to those of workers in private industry. If you become unemployed or are in a nonpay status and want to FILE A CLAIM, go to the nearest LOCAL PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICE of the STATE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AGENCY to register for work and file your claim for UI. Your ELIGIBILITY for UI CANNOT be determined until AFTER you file a claim. DO NOT DELAY filing a UI claim; if you wait, your unemployment benefits may be reduced or you may not qualify for any benefits.

To help EXPEDITE your claim, take THIS FORM with you, your SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBER CARD, the OFFICIAL NOTICE of your most recent SEPARATION or of your present NONPAY status (Standard Form 50 if available), EARNINGS and LEAVE statements, or similar documents that indicate you were employed by a Federal agency.

**FEDERAL AGENCY** will insert in the box:

**1st line** - Parent Federal Agency Name and 3 digit code number

**2nd line** - Major Component (if any)

**3rd and 4th line** - complete address to which all forms pertaining to a claim should be sent (ES-931, 931A, 934, 936, and notices of appeal, hearings, and determinations)

3 Digit  
Identification  
FEDERAL AGENCY  
CODE NO.

	3 Digit Identification FEDERAL AGENCY CODE NO.
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To be completed by the *Federal Agency*:

Contact Name/Office

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone No. (include area code)

**KEEP THIS FORM** and **TAKE IT WITH YOU** if you file a UCFE/UI claim for unemployed Federal workers provided by Federal law (U.S. CODE, Title 5, Chapter 85). For more information about UCFE/UI, read the REVERSE SIDE of this form.

# UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES (UCFE) PROGRAM

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) FOR FEDERAL WORKERS

### TAKE THIS FORM WITH YOU IF YOU GO TO FILE A CLAIM

#### GENERAL INFORMATION:

#### 1. WHO WILL PAY UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS?

If you are eligible, you will be paid by a State employment security agency under the provisions of its unemployment insurance (UI) law. The amount of your regular weekly benefits and the period for which benefits will be paid will generally be determined by the law of the State in which you had your last Official Duty Station. This Duty Station will be printed on your final "Notification of Personnel Action", SF-50. If you have received all the regular benefits for which you are eligible, you may, under certain circumstances, become eligible for additional weeks of extended benefits; check with a State local office official. If your last duty station was outside the United States, you will not be eligible until you return to the United States, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands. Your benefit rights will then be determined under the law of your State of residence.

UCFE/UI for unemployed Federal workers is paid from U.S. Government funds. No deductions were taken from your pay to finance these benefits.

#### 2. UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS WILL I BE ELIGIBLE?

All State UI laws require that:

- a. You must be unemployed, able to work, and available for suitable work; (In some cases, you may be eligible if you are employed less than full time);
- b. You must register for work and file a claim at a local public employment service/UI claim office;
- c. You must continue to report to the office as directed; and
- d. You must have had a certain amount of employment/wages within a base period of 1 year specified in the State law and have been separated through no fault of your own.

All State UI laws will deny you benefits for such reasons as:

- a. Quitting your job voluntarily without good cause or being discharged for misconduct connected with work; or
- b. Refusing an offer of a suitable job without good cause.

Some State UI laws deny or reduce UI benefits for certain types of payments you may receive (retirement, severance, and/or lump-sum amount for unused, accrued annual leave).

#### 3. DO I HAVE THE RIGHT OF APPEAL?

Yes. If a determination is made denying you benefits, you have the right to appeal as provided in the applicable State law.

#### 4. ARE THERE ANY PENALTIES?

Yes. If you willfully make a false (fraudulent) claim, you may be fined, imprisoned, or both. If you make a mistake in giving information when you file your claim, notify the local UI claim office as soon as you discover the mistake: prompt notification may avoid a penalty.

(The above statements are issued for general information; they do not have the effect of law, regulation, or ruling).

IF YOU BECOME REEMPLOYED and have been collecting UCFE/UI benefit payments, it is your RESPONSIBILITY to notify the local office, in writing, to discontinue paying benefits now that you are employed. Failure to do so may result in a *penalty such as a fine, imprisonment, or both.*