



# UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

This factsheet explains who is eligible for unemployment benefits in Maryland and how to get them. **This is not legal advice.** Please consult an attorney about your particular situation.

## ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for unemployment insurance cannot be determined until you actually file a claim. To qualify for unemployment insurance benefits, you must have:

- Generally worked for a year prior to filing
- Be separated from your employment through no fault of your own

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- If I am approved for unemployment benefits, **how much can I expect?**
  - Benefits can range from \$50 per week up to \$430 a week, depending on how much you earned at your previous place of employment.
- **How long do unemployment benefits last?**
  - If you qualify, you can receive up to 26 weeks total of unemployment insurance benefits, or about six months.

## FILING FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

You can file for unemployment benefits by phone or internet:

- **Call a claim center.** In Baltimore City, call 1(877) 293-4125. You can also call 211 to find your county's claim number.
- **File online.** Visit <http://www.dllr.maryland.gov/employment/unemployment.shtml> to apply.

When you apply for unemployment benefits, you must:

- ◆ Be able to work, be available for full-time work and make an active search for full-time work
- ◆ File timely bi-weekly claims
- ◆ Report all wages earned each week, if any
- ◆ Report all pensions, severance, or pension payments received
- ◆ Be available to contact the Division of Unemployment Insurance when asked to do so
- ◆ Report to the Maryland One Stop Career Center when required to do so
- ◆ Accept suitable work as defined by the law

There is now a requirement to make a minimum of three job contacts per week, meaning you must make contact in-person, phone, email, or other method with a potential employer 3 times per week, and submit a resume if possible. You must report your job contacts at <https://mwejobs.maryland.gov/loginintro.asp>

If you have been denied unemployment benefits please visit

[WWW.MVLSLAW.ORG/APPLY-FOR-SERVICES/](http://WWW.MVLSLAW.ORG/APPLY-FOR-SERVICES/)

Or call intake between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Monday through Thursday at 1(800) 510-0050 or (410) 547-6537