

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS OVERVIEW

The Department of Employment Services (DOES) administers the Unemployment Insurance Program for the District of Columbia that provides assistance to individuals who become unemployed through no fault of their own.

The District of Columbia UI law requires that:

- You must be unemployed, able to work, and available for suitable work. (You may be eligible if you are employed less than full time);
- You must register for work and file a claim at a local public employment service/UI claim office;
- You must continue to report to the office as directed; and
- You must have had a certain amount of employment/wages within a base period of 1 year.

When a Federal employee is placed in a nonpay status, he or she may be entitled to UI benefits. Eligibility for UI cannot be determined until after the employee has filed. Employees filing for UI benefits must provide the following information to their State Unemployment Office:

- Identification Card;
- Social Security Card; and
- Earnings and Leave Statement.

However, to expedite your claim employees may provide the following additional information to their State Unemployment Office:

- Standard Form 8;
- Official notice of recent nonpay status (Standard Form 50, if available); or
- Similar documents that indicate employment in Federal agency.

If you are totally or partially unemployed and wish to apply for benefits, call the DOES call center or complete an on-line application on the Internet. DOES strongly encourage that customers seeking unemployment benefits do so on-line for quicker service.

DOES Call Center:
202-724-7000

DOES Call Center Long Distance:
1-877-319-7346

Internet Address:
<https://does.dcnetworks.org/initialclaims/>