

**2018-2019 Partial Federal Government Shutdown  
Unemployment Insurance Resource for Federal Employees**

On February 15, 2019, the President signed a spending package to fund the federal government. Federal employees who were either furloughed or worked without pay due to the partial federal government shutdown, received unemployment insurance benefits, and received back pay after the shutdown ended may be required to pay the unemployment insurance benefits back.

Since the federal government reopened on January 25, 2019, we are issuing overpayment decisions to those who received unemployment insurance benefits during the shutdown and back pay after the shutdown ended. Below is information on how these federal employees can pay back the overpaid unemployment insurance benefits.

**1. How do I know if I am overpaid?**

If you are a federal employee that was affected by the shutdown and received back pay for the weeks you received unemployment insurance benefits, your claim is overpaid. If you were overpaid, you should have received, or you will receive, a notice in the mail with the amount you were overpaid and instructions for repayment.

**2. How do I repay the money I owe?**

To discuss payment options, call our collections staff at (503) 947-1710 and select option 2.

There are several ways to make a payment:

- Visit the [Online Claim System](#) using your credit or debit card (including ReliaCard Visa debit cards). You will need your Social Security Number and PIN to make a payment online.
- Call us at (503) 947-1995 and select option 1.
- Mail payment to:

Employment Department Collections  
Unit 21  
PO Box 4395  
Portland, OR 97208-4395

**3. I received a paper check for benefits that are now overpaid, but have not cashed it. Can I return the check?**

Yes. Once we receive the check, we will cancel it and apply it towards your overpayment.

- Mail the check to:

Oregon Employment Department  
Attention: Records and Redetermination  
875 Union St, NE  
Salem, OR 97311

**4. Is cash repayment required?**

Due to the type of overpayment you received because of the shutdown, you are not required to make cash payments. However, repayment now will prevent future deductions from your weekly benefits.

If you do not repay the overpayment now, and need unemployment benefits within the next five years, you would not receive those benefits until your overpayment has been repaid.

**5. Who can I call if I am a federal employee affected by the shutdown and have questions about my claim?**

For questions relating to the shutdown, call the Special Programs Center at 1-800-436-6191, option 9 for assistance.