



## **2019 Partial Federal Government Shutdown Frequently Asked Questions for Utah Unemployment Benefits**

**1. Now that the shutdown is over, do I need to repay the unemployment benefit I received?**

On Jan. 16, 2019, Congress passed the Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019 guaranteeing payment to all federal employees, including those on furlough, once the shutdown ended. With the shutdown ending on January 25, you will receive back pay and will need to repay any unemployment benefit you received while furloughed due to the shutdown.

**2. How will I know how much unemployment benefit I need to repay?**

In the coming days, a decision letter will be sent to you describing that you were not considered unemployed for the shutdown-related furlough time frame. In addition, an overpayment letter will be sent detailing the benefit amount you will need to repay.

**3. Will I be charged any fees or interest for the benefit I must repay?**

No, you are only required to repay the gross benefit amount the department paid out to you.

**4. How do I repay the unemployment benefit I received during the government shutdown?**

The most convenient method to repay benefits owed is to call the Collections team at 801-517-4990 and use your Visa, Master, or Discover Card. You can also mail a cashier's check, money order, or personal check to 140 East 300 South, PO BOX 143003, SLC, UT 84114. If full repayment is made within 30 days from the date of your decision letter, no lien will be filed against you to aid in the collection.

**5. I was not furloughed due to the shutdown and was not given back pay for that time frame, do I have to repay any of my unemployment benefit?**

If your furlough was not related to the government shutdown and you will not be receiving back pay, you generally should not have to repay any of the benefit you received. If you feel that you have wrongfully received instructions to repay the benefit, contact the Claims Assistance and Re-Employment team at 801-526-4400, or toll free at 888-848-0688.

**6. What if there is another shutdown in the coming weeks?**

If there is another shutdown-related furlough in the future, you can re-open a previously filed claim or file a new claim for those who have not filed within the past year, by going to [jobs.utah.gov/ui/home](https://jobs.utah.gov/ui/home).

Please keep in mind: you will not be able to receive a full weekly unemployment benefit amount until the amount owed from the previous shutdown is fully repaid.