

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **For Immediate Release**

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## **COLORADO'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DIVISION READY TO ASSIST FEDERAL WORKERS IMPACTED BY GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN**

*Approximately 40,000 federal workers may be eligible for jobless benefits*

(DENVER) – Today civilian federal workers in Colorado received word that they will be furloughed as a result of a shutdown of the federal government and many of them will likely be eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits while they are out of work. While there are 54,000 federal workers on Colorado, not all of them will be impacted by the potential federal shutdown.

The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment has information posted on its website related to the furloughs, including what is required to file a claim. Furloughed federal workers should file their claims online at [www.coloradoui.gov](http://www.coloradoui.gov).

There is a mandatory one-week waiting period before a claim is activated and workers may not file their claim until their last day of work. Unlike most claimants, the federal workers are “job attached” which means they will not be required to conduct a job search during their furlough.

Current claimants who are concerned about a federal shutdown affecting payment of their unemployment benefits need not worry. All state and federal unemployment benefits will continue to be paid regardless of the government shutdown.

Finally, because the federal government is not a private sector employer that pays into the state's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund, all benefits paid to federal workers will be charged to the federal government as a “reimbursing employer” and payments to federal workers will have no impact to the UI Trust Fund.

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