

Federal Worker Assistance Resources

Your local Combined Federal Campaign has pulled together various resources in our community for our federal workforce and their families.

Financial, Basic Needs, and Direct Services Support

Unemployment Benefits

- Nebraska https://dol.nebraska.gov/UIBenefits/Resources/FAQ
- South Dakota https://dlr.sd.gov/ui/individuals/default.aspx
- lowa https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/file-claim-unemployment-insurance-benefits

Food Pantries

- Feeding America How to Find Your Local Food Bank
- Heartland Hope Mission Pantry https://foodbankheartland.org
- Heartland Family Services https://heartlandfamilyservice.org/

Utility Support

- Need Help Paying Bills Information -https://www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/nebraska_utility_and_heating_a.html
- AT&T and Direct TV offering flexible payment plans for furloughed federal workers
- Verizon 866-266-1445

Other Basic Needs (List other local charity services here)

- Salvation Army
- Catholic Charities https://www.ccomaha.org/
- Community Health Charities of Nebraska: https://www.chcne.org/

Other Financial Assistance

- TSP Effect of Nonpay Status on Your TSP Account https://www.tsp.gov/PDF/formspubs/oc95-4.pdf
- **TSP Withdrawal and Loans** During a Government Shutdown: http://tsp-withdrawal.com/tsp-withdrawal-government-shutdown/
- The American Airlines Credit Union Is offering a "Government Shutdown Loan"! With an Annual Percentage Rate of just 1.00%, the maximum amount for this personal loan is \$1,200, or the amount of a net paycheck during one pay period, whichever is higher. Call (800) 533 0035 for details, or visit the local AAFCU Office for details
- How Banks and Lenders Are Helping Workers Affected by the Government
 Shutdown: https://free.vice.com/en_us/article/8xpzdv/government-shutdown-bank-relief-federal-workers
- **Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund** offers loans to federal employees, https://feea.org/ FEEA has put together some articles and resources at a national level: https://feea.org/shutdown/

Government Issued and Other Guidance

Employment and Pay Status

- The President has signed into law the Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019. This Act guarantees retroactive backpay for federal employees impacted by the partial government shutdown. This covers all our federal employees (excepted as well as non-excepted).
- The GEFTA Act can be viewed at https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/24/text
- job openings in Nebraska's long-term care profession are posted at https://www.nehca.org/jobs/.

OPM Guidance

- OPM Pay and Leave Furlough Guidance: https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/furlough-guidance/#url=Overview
- OPM Fact Sheet: Pay and Benefits Information for Employees Affected by the Lapse in Appropriations: https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/furlough-guidance/fact-sheet-pay-and-benefits-information-for-employees-affected-by-the-lapse-in-appropriations.pdf

General Guidance

- Potential ethics violations for crowdfunding https://m.govexec.com/pay-benefits/2019/01/shutdown-roundup-ethics-feds-gofundme-campaigns-smartbenefits-deadline-extension-and-more/154281/?Oref=GovexecFB
- See guidance issued by GSA regarding Ethical Considerations During a Lapse in Funding at the end of this document. While each agency is likely to issue its own guidance, these items are worth reviewing to make sure no one violates regulations. Please check with your own Office of Counsel for any guidance specific to your agency.

Health Care Guidance

• All current Health and Dental plans are active. Take care of yourself. Stress is the number one cause of illness. Remember every federal employee has access to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Don't hesitate to contact your agency's EAP provider.

DISCLOSURE: You should verify that these resources are non-prohibited sources for your agency, you can verify this with your agencies ethics officer.