

## **Notice to Arkansas State Employees Furloughed as a Result of the Partial Federal Government Shutdown**

The Unemployment Insurance program provides protection against a loss of income during periods in which one is involuntarily unemployed and may be an option for state employees furloughed as a result of the federal government shutdown. Furloughed state employees seeking to file an unemployment insurance claim may do so by accessing the Department of Workforce Services EZARC (Easy Arkansas Claims) web-based application at [www.ezarc.adws.arkansas.gov](http://www.ezarc.adws.arkansas.gov) from any location via the Internet. Completing the Internet claim will take approximately 30 minutes.

Generally, individuals that have been furloughed due to the partial federal government shutdown and have earned wages between July 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018 will be able to file an unemployment insurance claim. Once a claim is submitted through EZARC, the confirmation page will indicate whether there is a need to report to a DWS local office to complete the claim filing process. Individuals that are notified to report to a DWS local office should bring their government issued identification.

A valid waiting period week must be served before benefits can be paid. No unemployment insurance benefits will be paid during a valid waiting week. Please note that if retroactive payments are made to state employees impacted by the federal government shutdown, it could potentially result in an overpayment of unemployment insurance benefits for any benefits paid while on furlough.