Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Port of Baltimore Worker Support Program

If you regularly worked at the Port of Baltimore and have lost job hours and income since the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse, you may be eligible for the **Port of Baltimore Worker Support Program**. The program will provide $430 weekly relief payments during the Port's reduced operations, while funds are available.

To be eligible, you need to have worked at the Port of Baltimore at least 25 times or earned at least $5,000 from Port jobs between Jan. 1 and March 26, 2024. As part of the application, you must demonstrate that you regularly worked at the Port of Baltimore with specified identification and documents.

Who is eligible for the Worker Support Program?

Individuals who regularly worked at the Port of Baltimore and have experienced a reduction of work hours and income due to the bridge collapse. Applicants need to have worked at the Port at least 25 times or have earned at least $5,000 from Port jobs between January 1 and March 26, 2024.

Eligible workers include:

◄ Individual owner-operators

◄ Independent contractors

◄ Sole proprietors

◄ Single person Limited Liability Companies (LLC)

◄ Employees of a Port business or trade association

◄ Workers who receive a 1099 tax form from a Port business

How much money can I receive and for how many weeks?

As of the program launch on April 19, eligible workers can receive a $430 payment by check for each week of reduced pay since the bridge collapse. You can apply for retroactive payments from the week of March 26. The program is subject to available funding, changes in the operating status of the Port of Baltimore, or other factors.

Am I eligible if I also apply for and receive Unemployment Insurance?

Yes. If you are eligible for Unemployment Insurance (UI), you can also apply to the Worker Support Program as long as your UI benefits are less than your previous income from work at the Port.

Do I have to recertify every week similar to Unemployment Insurance?

Every two weeks, you will receive an email from the program asking you to certify your income remains lower than before the bridge collapse.

What identification and documents do I need to apply?

1. U.S. or state-government-issued photo identification

2. A real-time photograph taken by smartphone or webcam during the application process

3. Proof of access to the Port. Acceptable identification includes:
   ◄ A Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC card)
   ◄ A terminal ID badge
   ◄ A Port employer-provided ID badge

4. Two documents that provide proof of work performed at the Port from the list below:

   ◁ 2023 W-2 from Port of Baltimore employee

   ◁ 2023 1099 from Port of Baltimore contractor

   ◁ Copy of paystub(s) from 2024 from a Port of Baltimore employer

   ◁ Canceled check(s) from 2024 from a Port of Baltimore employer/contractor

   ◁ Evidence of direct deposits(s) from 2024, from a Port of Baltimore employer/contractor

   ◁ Interchange ticket(s) for containers moved from the Port of Baltimore, or bill(s) of lading indicating a completed transaction at the Port in 2024

How do I apply?
The online application is at *https://maryland-dol.submittable.com/submit*.

Can I get help over the phone or in person with the application?
You can call 410-541-1363 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.
You can email *mdportsupport@submittable.com* for assistance.

A temporary office at 2501 Broening Highway near the Seagirt terminal will open starting Monday, April 22, 2024 at noon to help workers with applications for the Worker Support Program as well as for Unemployment Insurance. Starting Tuesday, April 23, the office will be open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Where can I read more?

More information on the Port of Baltimore Worker Support Program is at *https://labor.maryland.gov/portworkersupport/*