

U.S. Department of Labor



For Use By DOL Employee Only

January 31, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

As you may be aware, on January 31, 2026, many federal agencies were partially closed due to a lapse of appropriations. As a result, the Department of Labor (DOL) has furloughed some employees until funding is authorized by Congress. A furloughed employee is a non-duty, non-pay status. While we do not anticipate this lapse in appropriations to last longer than 30 days, at this time, we cannot confirm when the employees will be returned to work status. DOL employees who have been furloughed have been sent an official notice from DOL documenting the furlough. This official notification is communicated on DOL letterhead and signed by a DOL designated official.

The furlough action may make it difficult for DOL employees to meet their financial obligations. We would appreciate your organization's cooperation in making arrangements with furloughed employees to assist them in meeting their financial obligations, and to reduce the financial impact of the furlough on them and their families.

We want to assure you that this is a temporary situation beyond the employee's control. The employee will be returned to pay status as soon as possible once Congress provides funding. This cover letter is intended to be used in conjunction with the emailed formal furlough notification as well as any other employer related identification a creditor may request from the employee to show proof of DOL employment. We hope this letter will help ease any financial burden DOL employees may experience as a result of their furlough. We ask that you remain patient and show compassion towards DOL furloughed employees during this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dean a. Heyl".

Dean Heyl
Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management
U.S. Department of Labor

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