FOR RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYEES

If you have been impacted by Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and are quarantined and unable to work, or your workplace has been temporarily closed, please review the following information about assistance available through State programs. The Department of Labor and Training (DLT) will do all that we can to ensure impacted Rhode Islanders receive the benefits for which they are eligible.

FOR RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYERS

If you are temporarily ceasing or limiting operations as a result of COVID-19, please contact the DLT to discuss how we can provide assistance.

- DLT stands ready to assist with questions about Unemployment Insurance, Paid Sick and Safe Leave or other programs and resources available.
- Requests for assistance can be made by emailing dlt.covid19@dlt.ri.gov or calling (401) 462-2020.
- Please be sure to provide your business’ name, a point of contact, telephone number and email address. A DLT team member will respond to inquiries in the order they are received.

Employers facing slowdowns due to COVID-19 may benefit from the WorkShare program.

WorkShare assists employers facing economic downturns by connecting their workers with Unemployment Insurance (UI) to partially replace wages lost due to a reduction in work hours.

- The amount of work hours may be reduced from 10%-50% (per RIGL 828-44-69).
- Employers can have their entire operation participate or only specific units, shifts or departments.
- Employees’ wages are partially replaced by UI benefits.
- Employers must continue to provide the same fringe benefits or must reduce all of their employees’ benefits by the same amount.
- If workers are covered by a collective bargaining agreement, their union must approve the WorkShare plan prior to implementation.

For more information on WorkShare, please visit www.dlt.ri.gov/ui/ws.htm.

For answers to frequently asked questions about COVID-19, please consult the Rhode Island Department of Health/Center for Disease Control fact sheet.