

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The California Employment Development Department (EDD) offers a wide variety of services to millions of Californians under the Employment Service, Unemployment Insurance, State Disability Insurance, Workforce Investment, and Labor Market Information programs. As California's largest tax collection agency, EDD also handles the audit and collection of payroll taxes and maintains employment records for more than 17 million California workers.

One of the largest departments in state government, EDD has nearly 10,000 employees providing services at more than 400 locations throughout the state. Here is a brief look at EDD's activities:

Employment Service

The EDD's Employment Service is authorized by the federal Wagner-Peyser Act, as amended by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998. The Employment Service is an integral part of the One-Stop delivery system that provides universal access to an integrated array of labor exchange and WIA services delivered through the statewide One-Stop Career Center system. Based on customer choice, these quality services are provided via self-service, facilitated self-help service, and staff-assisted service. Each year, EDD:

- Facilitates the match between California employers and qualified job seekers based on employers' requirements and job seekers' qualifications.
- Provides comprehensive services to employers, and offers an Internet-based automated system (CalJOBSSM) that enables employers to place jobs directly and search, screen, and select employees from a database of résumés.
- Enables job seekers to self-register and produce quality résumés from various locations through CalJOBSSM so they can self-search and self-refer to job openings.
- Is committed to state and local economic development and workforce preparation services.
- Assures priority of services to veterans.
- Provides labor market information to employers, job seekers, and others, including policy makers, economic developers, economists, and planners.
- Offers programs that provide many valuable services, such as job search workshops, case management services, and referral to education, training, and supportive services to client groups with special needs.

The EDD oversees a comprehensive approach for providing workforce investment activities through regionally administered Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA). The LWIA's administer the federal by providing activities that benefit job seekers, dislocated workers, youth, incumbent workers, new entrants to the workforce, veterans, people with disabilities, and employers. These activities promote an increase in the employment, job retention, earning, and occupational skills of the participants.

Workforce investment services are provided through comprehensive One-Stop Career Centers that provide services and resources to businesses and job seekers under one roof. The One-Stop provides services to individuals who are seeking employment, changing jobs, re-entering the workforce, learning new skills.

The EDD administers the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (WARN), which requires employers to give 60 days advance notice of plant closures or mass layoffs to affected employees. The state provides these dislocated workers with special assistance and access to One-Stop services.

Unemployment and State Disability Insurance

Through the Unemployment Insurance (UI) and State Disability Insurance (SDI) programs, EDD provides partial wage-replacement benefits to eligible California workers. Funded by employee payroll deduction (SDI) and employer tax contributions (UI), these insurance programs provide a strong stabilizer to California's economy and are designed to assist those who are out of work, ill, or need time away from work to care for a seriously ill family member, or bond with a new child.

Funded through employee payroll deductions, SDI provides disability insurance (DI) benefits to eligible workers who suffer a loss of wages when they are unable to work due to their own non work-related illness or injury, or a medically disabling condition from pregnancy or childbirth.

On July 1, 2004, California workers who are covered by the SDI program also became eligible for Paid Family Leave (PFL) insurance benefits. PFL compensates covered workers who suffer a wage loss due to the need to provide care for a seriously ill child, spouse, parent, or registered domestic partner, or to bond with a new minor child.

Both Disability Insurance and Paid Family Leave claims may be filed by mail, and information is available by phone and on-line 24 hours a day. In person assistance continues to be offered at all local SDI sites.

For UI claims, EDD offers multiple filing methods including Internet, telephone, mail, and fax. Additional information, the UI Internet application (eApply4UI), and mail/fax UI applications are available on EDD's Web site at www.edd.ca.gov. Claim information is available by phone 24 hours a day.

Each year, EDD:

- Pays out more than \$4 billion in UI benefits (excluding any federal extensions), and over \$4.1 billion in SDI benefits.
- Receives and processes more than 2.2 million initial UI claims and over 926,000 SDI claims.

Employment Training Panel

The Employment Training Panel (ETP) contracts with employers, which make UI tax contributions, training agencies, vocational schools and Workforce Investment Boards to fund the following types of training programs:

- Retraining: Programs to train current employees of companies facing out-of-state competition — primarily those in manufacturing and high technology sectors.
- New-Hire: Programs to train current UI recipients and / or those who have exhausted their UI benefits within the previous 24 months.
- Special Employment Training: Programs for frontline workers (production workers who earn at least the state's average hourly wage), workers in high unemployment areas, small business owners, and for workers with barriers to full time employment such as physical or mental disabilities, communication barriers, or lack of vocational skills.

For more information visit the ETP Internet site at www.etp.ca.gov.

Tax

The EDD handles all administrative and enforcement functions for audit and collection of UI, SDI, Employment Training Tax, and California Personal Income Tax (PIT). Each year, EDD:

- Collects more than \$42 billion in payroll taxes, including nearly \$33 billion in PIT.
- Processes more than 29 million employer tax documents and remittances.
- Recovers more than \$17.2 million in benefit overpayments through interagency agreements with the California Franchise Tax Board and the California Lottery Commission.

Labor Market Information

As the major source of labor market information in California, EDD provides national, state, and local area employment and unemployment statistics, economic planning information, career information, and other statistics. On the Internet, visit www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov to access publications and get the information needed to make informed decisions. Among the information available is employment, unemployment, industry and occupational outlook, social and demographic data, and labor market data. We also conduct applied research studies and produce publications on a wide variety of economic and employment issues.

Additionally, EDD:

- Has auditors and investigators monitoring, detecting, and prosecuting anyone attempting to defraud EDD systems. In a typical year, more than \$33 million in fraudulently-claimed UI benefits are recovered.
- Participates as a member of the Joint Enforcement Strike Force on the underground economy, a partnership of seven state agencies that combats noncompliance with state tax, labor, and licensing laws.
- Collects new hire and independent contractor information to locate parents who are delinquent in their child support obligations.
- Works with the California Employer Advisory Council, the statewide umbrella organization for approximately 50 local Employer Advisory Councils located throughout the state. Members represent a cross-section of business and industry, and their mission is to assist EDD in improving services to California's employers.
- Offers business owners and self-employed individuals the opportunity to protect themselves against loss of income due to a disabling condition, or the need to care for an ill family member, or bond with a new minor child through the State Disability Insurance Elective Coverage program.
- Works with local community groups to develop programs that increase employment and educational opportunities for people with special needs, such as youth.

To find the EDD office nearest you, please check the State Government section of your telephone directory under "Employment Development Department," or visit our Internet site at www.edd.ca.gov.

EDD is an equal opportunity employer/program.
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.