

Employment Security Board

The Department of Employment Security, formerly known as the Unemployment Compensation Board, was established in 1937. The Administration of the Department is vested in a Board of three members appointed for terms of six years (Code 1947 Supp. Art. 95A, sec. 10). The Board is authorized to enact such general and special rules as are necessary for the formulation of the general policy of the Department in administering the Unemployment Compensation Law. The Board also hears and determines appeals from the decisions of the Referees and Special Examiners arising from disputed claims for unemployment compensation.

The Advisory Council

The Unemployment Compensation Law permits the Board to establish an Advisory Council consisting of an equal number of representatives from the public, the employer and the employee. The Advisory Council meets with the Board for the purpose of aiding it to formulate policies and for discussing problems related to the administration of the Law to insure impartiality in the solution of such problems (Code 1947 Supp. Art. 95A, sec. 11e).

Unemployment Compensation Division

This Division of the Department in accordance with the policy set by the Board administers the payment of Unemployment Compensation benefits and the collection of the contributions therefor. Contributions are collected from employers covered under the Unemployment Compensation Law and weekly benefits are made to eligible individuals, that is, those who have accumulated certain wage credits and have become unemployed through no fault of their own. The law provides for a system of experience rating whereby employers who maintain steady employment are eligible for reductions in the rate of contributions. All funds collected under the Law are deposited with the Federal Treasury for the credit of the Unemployment Trust Fund of Maryland and may only be used for the payment of benefits.

Employment Service Division

The Employment Service Division operates a free employment service, registering those in all occupational groups for re-employment and serving to make a contact between employer and prospective employee. The Employment Service provides vocational guidance and counseling and administers aptitude and proficiency tests to those who desire them. The division also operates a staff devoted to labor market reporting, securing data regarding the size of the labor market, the types of positions open, the size and type of the labor supply available, current wage rates and other related material. The data collected is tabulated and presented in charts and studies relating to special areas or special subjects. The Division conducts a drive for the placement of the physically handicapped each October. It gives special Assistance to the State Employment Commissioner's office to secure personnel for State Hospitals. The Employment Division has assumed control of the Farm Labor Program which has as its object the recruitment and distribution of labor for agricultural purposes.

Branch Offices

The Department operates seventeen field offices throughout the State for the convenience of the public in filing claims for unemploy-