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Apprenticeship Information Center
1100 N. Eutaw St., Room 204
Baltimore 21201 Telephone: 333-5533

The former Department of Employment Security established an Apprenticeship Information Center in 1964 under the direction of the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training. In conjunction with the opening, the Governor and the Mayor of Baltimore City jointly appointed a Citizens Advisory Committee. In 1970, the Governor reactivated the Committee as the Apprenticeship Information Center Advisory Committee.

The Committee reviews laws and official decisions that effect the apprenticeship system. It also promotes employment opportunities for youth as apprentices, consults and advises groups concerning apprenticeship, and advises and assists in problem areas where there is resistance to equal opportunity practices. The Committee promotes the establishment of formal apprenticeship programs, and studies ways and means of encouraging and accelerating apprenticeship job opportunities.

Appointed by the Governor, the Committee consists of representatives from employer groups, labor, minorities, the general public, and State and local government.

OFFICE OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

1100 N. Eutaw St.
Baltimore 21201 Telephone: 333-5502

The Office of Unemployment Insurance originated in 1936 as the Unemployment Compensation Board (Chapter 1, Acts of Special Session of 1936). The Board was superseded by the Department of Employment Security in 1937 (Chapter 314, Acts of 1937). The Department's Unemployment Insurance Division administered the unemployment insurance law until 1970. In that year, the Department was reorganized as the

Department of Employment and Social Services (Chapter 96, Acts of 1970). The new Department's Employment Security Administration carried on administrative responsibilities and in 1975 was renamed the Unemployment Insurance Division of the Department of Human Resources (Chapter 382, Acts of 1975). In 1983, the division was transferred to the Department of Employment and Training and renamed the Unemployment Insurance Administration. It became part of the Department of Economic and Employment Development in 1987 (Senate Bill no. 699).

Pursuant to the Maryland Unemployment Insurance Law, the Office of Unemployment Insurance supervises the Unemployment Insurance Program carried out by local offices (Code 1957, Art. 95A). The Office collects contributions from employers covered by the Maryland Unemployment Insurance Law, collects quarterly wage information on covered employees, determines weekly benefits and eligibility in accordance with this wage information, and issues benefit checks to eligible claimants. It reviews benefit payments to determine if any were improperly made, recovers improper payments, and pays benefits to individuals who formerly worked in Maryland but now reside in other states. As provided by reciprocal interstate agreement, the Office also collects Maryland residents' claims against employers in other states.

Using an experience rating system, the Unemployment Insurance Law allows a reduced contribution rate for employers who maintain steady employment. All funds collected under the law are deposited with the federal Treasury for the credit of the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund of Maryland and may be used only for the payment of benefits.

Three units make up the Office. The Appeals Unit hears cases that have been appealed by claimants and employers following administrative review. The Benefits Unit determines claimants' eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits. The Unit administers the taking and processing of claims, adjudication of ineligible claims, and fraud detection and prosecution. The Benefits Units also oversees interstate combined wage and federal unemployment benefit programs. The Contributions Unit establishes employer tax accounts and assigns rates, charges benefits, and collects taxes on each account. This unit also collects all delinquent accounts and maintains the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.