

(b) An individual may be paid a self-employment assistance allowance if the individual:

(1) is determined eligible to be paid regular unemployment insurance benefits except for the requirements described in subsection (c) of this section;

(2) is identified by a worker profiling system, as outlined in the Code of Maryland Regulations, as an individual likely to exhaust regular unemployment insurance benefits;

(3) has filed an application for participation in a self-employment assistance program within 60 days of filing an initial claim for benefits and has provided the information the Secretary may prescribe;

(4) has, at the time the application is filed, a balance of regular benefits equal to at least 18 times the individual's weekly benefit amount in the individual's benefit year;

(5) has been accepted into a program approved by the Secretary that will provide self-employment assistance activities;

(6) is participating in self-employment assistance activities;

(7) is actively engaged on a full-time basis in activities, which may include training, relating to establishing a business and becoming self-employed; and

(8) has filed a weekly claim for the self-employment assistance allowance and provided the information the Secretary prescribes.

(c) A self-employment assistance allowance is payable on the same terms and subject to the same conditions as regular unemployment insurance benefits except that:

(1) the requirements of § 8-903 of this title relating to availability for work and actively seeking work are not applicable to the individual;

(2) the requirements of § 8-1005 of this title relating to refusal to accept referrals or offers of suitable work are not applicable to the individual;

(3) the provisions of § 8-803(d) of this title concerning subtracting any wages in excess of \$70 will not apply to the individual;

(4) an individual will be considered unemployed for the purposes of § 8-801 of this title; and

(5) an individual who fails to participate in self-employment activities or who fails to actively engage on a full-time basis in activities, which may include training, related to establishing a business and becoming self-employed is denied for the week in which the failure occurs.