

business and becoming self-employed. Self-employment assistance activities may include, but are not limited to, entrepreneurial training, business counseling, and technical assistance.

(c) "Self-employment assistance allowance" means an allowance payable, in lieu of regular unemployment insurance benefits, from the unemployment insurance trust fund to an individual who meets the requirements of this subtitle.

(d) "Self-employment assistance program" means a program under which an individual who meets the requirements described in § 8-1604 of this subtitle is eligible to receive an allowance in lieu of regular unemployment insurance benefits for the purpose of assisting that individual in establishing a business and becoming self-employed.

(e) "Regular benefits" means benefits payable to an individual under this title, including benefits payable to federal civilian employees and to ex-servicemembers as defined in 5 U.S.C. § 8521(a) who are eligible for unemployment insurance benefits for ex-servicemembers under 5 U.S.C. § 8521.

8-1602.

Unless the result would be inconsistent with this subtitle, the provisions of this title that apply to claims for or the payment of regular benefits shall apply to self-employment assistance allowances.

8-1603.

(a) The weekly amount of a self-employment assistance allowance payable to an individual under this subtitle is equal to the weekly benefit amount for regular benefits otherwise payable under this title.

(b) The maximum self-employment assistance allowance paid under this subtitle may not exceed the maximum amount of benefits established under § 8-808 of this title.

8-1604.

(a) Self-employment assistance benefits will be payable pursuant to the eligibility requirements of this subtitle.

(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;