

Department: County Management

Program Contact: Travis Brown

Program Offer Type: Operating

Program Offer Stage: Proposed

Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:
Executive Summary

The Unemployment Insurance Program provides unemployment benefits to eligible workers who are unemployed due to layoff or other discharge for reasons other than misconduct. Unemployment insurance replaces part of the income that employees lose when they become unemployed.

Program Description

Unemployment benefits are provided through the State of Oregon Employment Department. Multnomah County funds these benefits, as a self-insured employer, with direct payments to the state. The State bills the County quarterly.

Former employees, or employees who have had their hours reduced, submit claims to the State, who then determines eligibility and benefit amounts. Claimants or the County may file an appeal with the State if they want to contest an eligibility decision. A hearing with an administrative law judge would then be scheduled, at which the county would appear.

The Unemployment Insurance Program provides the funding to ensure eligible workers secure financial assistance when they are no longer employed by the County, or their hours are reduced. Employees staffing the program:

- * Respond to the Oregon Employment Department's claim forms and requests for information in a timely manner,
- * Provide accurate and timely monitoring and reporting, and
- * Participate in appeal hearings to decrease costs and liability due to ineligible claims.

The County does not contest eligible claims. Benefits claim decisions by the state can favor the applicant if our responses are late, data is inaccurate or we fail to respond to a requested clarification.

This program funds 50% of position 712514 Office Assistant Senior (NR), which is responsible for coordinating responses, tracking, communication, hearing scheduling and bill processing for unemployment claims countywide.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target
Output	Number of employee claims for unemployment.	260	400	300	400
Outcome	Percentage of unemployment claim appeals found in the county's favor.	50%	50%	40%	50%
Output	Number of unemployment appeals.	12	8	16	15

Performance Measures Descriptions

Outputs and Outcomes: Number of claims fluctuates annually depending on budget and layoff impacts. Appeals are filed when the county or claimant disagrees with the benefit eligibility decision by the State; claims in the County's favor means a lower expense and lower risk to the County.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Unemployment Insurance benefits are mandated by federal and state laws. Oregon Employment Law, statues 657.005 and 657.010, Federal Unemployment Act Social Security Act.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025
Personnel	\$0	\$46,847	\$0	\$113,862
Contractual Services	\$0	\$150	\$0	\$150
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$970,921	\$0	\$970,993
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$27
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$1,017,918	\$0	\$1,085,032
Program Total:	\$1,017,918		\$1,085,032	
Program FTE	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.65

Program Revenues				
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$1,017,918	\$0	\$1,085,032
Total Revenue	\$0	\$1,017,918	\$0	\$1,085,032

Explanation of Revenues

This program is supported by the Risk Fund. Unemployment claims are funded by assessing a rate based on 0.25% of monthly payroll for each department. Revenue for FY 2025 is \$1,085,032

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2024: 72019 Central HR Unemployment

Moved 50% of funding for position 712514 Office Assistant Senior (NR) from program offer 72016.