



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

148 ANDREW YOUNG INTERNATIONAL BLVD., N.E. • ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1751

You are strongly urged to take advantage of the opportunities in education and training currently available for unemployed workers. While the economy recovers, this is a great time to improve skills and lay the foundation for a stronger economy in the future. Studies have shown that workers with more education and training have more secure jobs and higher wages.

On May 8, 2009, President Obama announced that individuals who are collecting unemployment insurance benefits will receive special consideration for financial aid to pay for job training or education. Unemployment benefits may also be available while you are enrolled.

Federal Pell Grant scholarships cover up to \$5,350 in education and training expenses. They are accepted at nearly all universities, community colleges and many trade and technical schools. Even if you do not qualify for a Pell Grant, you may be eligible for other aid.

Applying for financial aid and finding training is easier than you think. You can visit www.opportunity.gov for helpful information. If you are interested in pursuing these opportunities, here are the steps you should take:

1. Decide what type of training meets your needs or interests. You may visit www.careeronestop.org or your local One-Stop Career Center or community college for help in identifying potential education and training opportunities. You may locate the nearest One-Stop Career Center, by calling 1-877-872-5627 or visiting www.servicelocator.org for assistance or view a list of One-Stop Career Centers in Georgia at www.dol.state.ga.us.
2. Colleges or One-Stop Career Centers can also assist you in applying for Pell Grant scholarships and other financial aid. An online application is also available at www.fafsa.gov or by calling 1-800-4FEDAID. You will be asked to report your income for last year when applying.
3. Finally, please contact your local Georgia Department of Labor Career Center prior to enrolling to ensure that you continue to receive unemployment benefits while enrolled in your program of choice. A list of approved education and training institutions is available through the GDOL website under the "Learn About Education and Training" link.

Be sure to present this letter and your UI determination letter that states you are eligible for unemployment benefits to your school. For the next 90 days, it confirms that you are an unemployment insurance beneficiary. While this letter does not guarantee your eligibility for a Pell Grant, your school will use it to adjust your eligibility. After 90 days or if you lose this letter, you may report to your local career center to obtain documentation to show that you are currently receiving unemployment insurance. You will be required to provide proof of identity.