

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT OR STALKING SURVIVORS

Updated August 2011

Oregon has a special law about unemployment benefits for workers who are victims of domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault or who have family members who are victims.

You cannot be disqualified from receiving unemployment benefits or be considered unavailable for work if:

- You had to quit an Oregon job because you, or a member of your immediate family is, or could be, a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking **and**
- You left work to protect yourself or your family member from domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking your reasonably believed would happen if you stayed at your job **or**
- You are getting unemployment benefits but cannot apply for work or accept a job in order to protect yourself or your family member from domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking you reasonably believe will happen if you accept work.

How do you apply for benefits?

Apply for unemployment compensation benefits at your local employment office or make an application on-line at www.oregon.gov/employ. **Be sure to explain why staying at your job, applying for work, or accepting work puts you in danger of further harm.**

- If you are denied benefits, request a hearing within 20 days of your denial decision.

For more information: Call the **Public Benefits Hotline (1-800-520-5292)** or your local Legal Aid Services Office for possible advice or representation. Go to www.oregonlawhelp.org for a directory of legal aid programs.