



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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

MICHAEL L. THURMOND
COMMISSIONER

May 7, 2010

Dear Teachers and School System Employees:

Recent reductions in state funding and the ongoing recession have forced many school districts to decrease their staffing levels. In response to requests for our assistance, the Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) has been working closely with school systems throughout our state to assist with provision of unemployment insurance benefits and re-employment services for teachers and other affected staff.

Workers facing job loss experience a sequence of emotions including panic, anger, and frustration which often impacts the entire family. Our approach is to first help stabilize the family by providing access to unemployment insurance benefits. Qualification is based on:

- Whether the job loss is through no fault of the individual.
- The amount of wages during a qualifying period.
- Each case is considered individually.

We will be establishing an on-line filing process for school system employees which will be accessed at www.dol.state.ga.us.

Beyond this, we assist individuals in looking to the future and considering options for securing another job, retooling their skills or even going back to school to make a significant career change. Resources are available to support job search and pay for training and many related expenses. Plans are already underway to host regional workshops and establish transition centers strategically located across the state to offer a comprehensive array of resources and services.

While we recognize the challenges of unemployment, our experience shows this can also be a time of opportunity. We encourage you to allow us to assist.

Please visit our website at www.dol.state.ga.us for further information.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Thurmond
Commissioner