

Resources for Those Affected by the Government Shutdown

Utilities

The Department of Environmental Services will be waiving late fees on Arlington County utility bills for furloughed government employees. Call the County's Customer Contact Center at 703-228-6570 to make arrangements.

Dominion Energy encourages customers affected by the government shutdown to call 866-366-4357 to explore payment and energy assistance options

Washington Gas is offering a range of flexible payment options for federal workers, including deferred payments and a plan that will allow customers to spread the cost of winter heating over the course of the entire year. If you are affected by the shutdown call customer service representatives at 1-844-WASHGAS (844-927-4427) to discuss their individual situations.

Mortgages, Loans, etc.

Those impacted by the federal government shutdown are encouraged to immediately contact their mortgage lender, credit card company, student loan servicer or insurance company and explain that they are impacted by the federal government shutdown. Many lenders will waive late fees and other penalties. In addition, some banks and credit unions are offering low or no interest rate loans to help people who need immediate cash. Also, call your wireless cell provider and they may be able to offer you flexible payment options.

You can also file for unemployment benefits with the Department of Employment Services, <https://does.dc.gov/page/ui-benefits-claimants>.

The Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) received a grant to help neighbors affected by the government shutdown with emergency financial assistance. If you need assistance call 571-748-2552 or email shutdown@nvfs.org.

If you are an Arlington resident affected by the government shutdown and need emergency financial, housing, or transportation assistance, call 703-228-1300.

Food and Groceries

The Animal Welfare League of Arlington Pet Food Pantry (2650 S Arlington Mill Dr, Arlington, VA 22206) is offering pet food for Arlington and Falls Church residents who are government employees affected by the shutdown and in need of assistance feeding their pets. Bring your government ID.

Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) (2708 S Nelson St, Arlington, VA 22206) is offering Arlington residents affected by the government shutdown and in need of food free groceries. Find out details here: <https://afac.org/govshutdown>

Arlington Public Schools has special meal services and Extended Day program policies for families affected by the shutdown. Check here for details <https://www.apsva.us/post/a-message-to-aps-families-about-the-government-shutdown/>.

Diya Indian Cuisine (218 N. Lee Street, Alexandria, VA 22314) is offering free dine-in lunch buffet to federal government employees (ID required) from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Great Harvest Bread (1711 Centre Plaza, Alexandria, VA 22302) has a shutdown shelf. If you are a furloughed employee or working without pay, you are invited to choose a loaf of bread for free off the shelf.

Ikea is offering free breakfast Monday - Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Baltimore (8352 Honeygo Blvd.), College Park (10100 Baltimore Ave.) and Woodbridge, Va., (2901 Potomac Mills Circle). (ID required)

Jaleo (2250 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202) All of Jose Andres restaurants will be offering a free sandwich between 2 – 5 p.m. to furloughed federal employees.

Kriser's Natural Pet (the closest location is 2509 Franklin Rd, Arlington, VA 22201) is offering a free bag of food comparable to what your pet is currently eating when you show your government employee ID.

Lavender Moon Cupcakery (116 S. Royal Street, Alexandria, VA 22314) is offering a free cupcake for federal employees every Tuesday until the government shutdown ends.

Pork Barrel BBQ (2312 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301) is offering all out of work, furloughed federal government employees (and out of work federal contractors) a free pulled pork sandwich.

South Block Juice Co. (2121 N Westmoreland St, Arlington, VA 22213) is offering a free regular smoothie every Friday to furloughed government workers.

Sweet Fire Donna's (510 John Carlyle Street, Alexandria, VA 22314) is offering a free pulled pork sandwich to furloughed workers.

Ten Thousand Villages (915 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314) is offering a free small, fair trade chocolate bar to those affected by the shutdown.

Tequila & Taco (540 John Carlyle Street, Alexandria, VA 22314) is giving away two free tacos to all furloughed government employees.

29 Diner (10536 Fairfax Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22030) is offering one free meal a day per family (up to \$60 for a family of four) impacted by the government shutdown.

&pizza (the closest location is 3525 Jefferson Davis Highway, Alexandria, VA 22305) is offering any government employee a free pie from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. during the shutdown.

Things to do

Alexandria Visitors Center (221 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314) is offering federal workers a free Key to the City museum pass (a \$44 value), which can be used for free entry to Alexandria historic sites. A federal employee ID is required.

The Art League (808 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314) is offering a free painting class every Tuesday afternoon from 1:30-3:30pm until the shutdown ends at The Art League's Madison Annex. RSVP here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/creative-escapes-for-furloughed-workers-free-tickets-54554180021>.

Fibre Space (1319 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314) is offering free classes for furloughed federal employees daily from 2-3:30 p.m. and 3:30-5 p.m.

George Mason University (4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22303) is offering two complimentary basketball tickets, free career workshops and leadership training, and \$5 performances to furloughed federal employees. For more information visit: <https://www2.gmu.edu/for-furloughed-federal-employees>.

Local Motion Studio (2377 S. Dove Street, Alexandria, VA 22314), is offering free classes (yoga, pilates, and barre) Tuesday through Friday.

***DISCLAIMER: Some of this material was borrowed liberally from other lists of information. Please check with businesses offering deals to government employees as these may change. ***