

Contractor Management,

Thank you for attending the Ames Contractor Council gathering on Thursday, January 24. Below is some important information for the Ames Contractor Community.

All NASA Furlough Information:

All of the furlough information can be found on the NASAPEOPLE website. This website is being updated regularly and has a wealth of information. Please check it often:

<https://nasapeople.nasa.gov/shutdown/shutdown.htm>

Financial Resources:

- Attached is a summary of all the credit union options open to all our employees. For example, there is a \$10,000 loan available from NASA Federal Credit Union in DC. <https://www.nasafcu.com/shutdown-assistance/>
- There is also a zero interest credit card available from Meriwest, our local credit union. <https://www.meriwest.com/?Cabinet=Main&Drawer=General+Information&Folder=Important+Announcements&SubFolder=Furloughed+Government+Employee+Support>
- Attached is an OPM fact sheet and benefits summary
- Attached is a TSP fact sheet

Shutdown Support:

- NASA CONCERN: EAP is open and provides free support to civil servants and contractors from counseling to financial consultation: <https://www.concern-eap.com>
- Parimal Kopardekar (PK) started a Facebook support group that has over 700 members and people are always posting helpful information. You can join it at Facebook: Shutdown Strategies - Support Group
- Locally, the Mercury News is summarizing furlough freebies: <https://www.mercurynews.com/2019/01/17/furlough-freebies-meals-deals-for-federal-employees>
- If anyone is having issues such as not having money for rent and being subject to getting kicked out or losing rent control status, they can contact Anna Eshoo's office (<https://eshoo.house.gov/contact-us/>), and her staff will call the landlord to help work the issue if you live in her district, and may contact your representative if you live in another rep's district.

Next Steps:

- NASA will have another meeting on **Thursday, January 31 from 10 am to 1 pm** at the Tee Minus One Grill to share information and provide support during the furlough.
- NASA is preparing for an orderly startup, similar to how it did an orderly shutdown.
- If people have recently expired badges, they will still be able to get on campus though they won't be able to use their smart card until it gets re-enabled. brandon.p.ward@nasa.gov can help essential personnel who are having issues with their badge, and grace.deleon@nasa.gov can help essential personnel who are having IT issues.
- NASA is currently brainstorming ideas for events to hold once the shutdown is over, to help restore morale (e.g., briefings on essential work that was done during the shutdown and inspiring talks about the mission, social events, etc.). NASA is looking for ideas, and encourages contractors to do the same.

Please share this information with your staff and let them know how much the Center Management appreciates their patience in this difficult and uncertain time. They are especially appreciative to those that are working on excepted activities without pay. It is a trying time for everyone and so please reach out and check in with colleagues.

Thank you,
ACC Board Members