



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 18, 2009

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Furlough closures affect DHS offices the day after Thanksgiving *Most Department of Human Services offices will be closed Nov. 26 and 27*

Local offices of the Department of Human Services (DHS) and other state agencies will be closed Friday, Nov. 27, as 26,500 state employees take mandatory, unpaid furloughs on that day – the day after Thanksgiving.

The Friday, Nov. 27, closure is a result of budget cuts adopted by the Legislature due to the current recession. It is the second of 10 closure dates the state has scheduled over the current two-year budget period. Each day of closure will save an estimated \$2 million in personnel costs statewide.

Local DHS branch offices that serve Oregonians in their communities will be closed. However, Public Health employees responsible for the state's H1N1 flu response and certain DHS employees who ensure client safety and care for the state hospital's patients will remain on the job.

"We are working with clients in advance to minimize the impact on them of the planned closure," said Dr. Bruce Goldberg, DHS director. "Operations that require around-the-clock staffing will be maintained, and employees will elect an alternative unpaid furlough day."

State Web sites offer information on closures

The Oregon Department of Administrative Services has published information about the closure on Nov. 27 and other furlough days on the state's Web site (www.oregon.gov). Members of the public can also find out which state offices will remain open on the closure days. The public is encouraged to check individual agencies' Web sites for additional information.

(more)

DHS furlough closures

Add 1

The state has scheduled the following dates as closure days with mandatory unpaid furloughs (all are Fridays):

(October 16, 2009 – past)

November 27, 2009

March 19, 2010

April 16, 2010

June 18, 2010

August 20, 2010

September 17, 2010

November 26, 2010

March 18, 2011

May 20, 2011

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