The Maryland Federal Bonding Program is an incentive program designed to encourage businesses to hire qualified job-seekers who have certain risk factors in their personal background.

The Federal Bond is a Fidelity Bond issued to businesses to insure the company against specific actions of an employee.

**WHAT IS FIDELITY BONDING?**

**Fidelity Bonding Is...**
- Insurance to protect businesses against any type of stealing: theft, forgery, larceny, and embezzlement

**Fidelity Bonding Is Not...**
- Liability coverage due to poor workmanship, job injuries, work accidents, etc.
- A bail bond or court bond needed in adjudication
- A bond needed for self-employment (contract bond, license bond, or performance bond)

**WHAT ARE THE RESTRICTIONS?**

Employees must meet Maryland’s legal age for working, must work at least 30 hours per week, and must be paid wages with federal taxes automatically deducted from their pay.

**WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO BUSINESSES?**

- Free-of-charge to businesses for the first six months of a person’s hire
- Involves no paper work
- Insured by the Union Insurance Group a long-standing reputable insurance provider

**CAN THE BOND BE ISSUED AT ANY TIME?**

For the bond to be issued, the employer must offer a job to the applicant and set a date for the individual to start work. The job start date will be the effective date of the surety bond. The insurance policy will terminate six months later. Employment must be verified by the Maryland Reentry Coordinator for the bond to be issued.
WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Job applicants with the following risk factors are eligible:

- History of arrest, conviction, or incarceration
- History of substance abuse
- Poor credit history, e.g., bankruptcy
- Lack of employment history, e.g., youth, displaced homemaker
- Special situations requiring a fidelity bond

Note: Self-employed persons are not eligible.