



Unemployment Insurance Relief During COVID-19 Outbreak

Background

On March 18, 2020, President Trump signed into law the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), which provided additional flexibility for state unemployment insurance agencies and additional administrative funding to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law on March 27. It expands states' ability to provide unemployment insurance for many workers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including for workers who are not ordinarily eligible for unemployment benefits. For more information, please [refer to the resources available below](#).

How Do I Apply?

To receive unemployment insurance benefits, you need to file a claim with the unemployment insurance program in the state where you worked. Depending on the state, claims may be filed in person, by telephone, or online.

- You should contact your [state's unemployment insurance program](#) as soon as possible after becoming unemployed.
- Generally, you should file your claim with the state where you worked. If you worked in a state other than the one where you now live or if you worked in multiple states, the state unemployment insurance agency where you now live can provide information about how to file your claim with other states.
- When you file a claim, you will be asked for certain information, such as addresses and dates of your former employment. To make sure your claim is not delayed, be sure to give complete and correct information.

Where Do I File for Unemployment Insurance?

Unemployment insurance is a joint state-federal program that provides cash benefits to eligible workers. Each state administers a separate unemployment insurance program, but all states follow the same guidelines established by federal law.

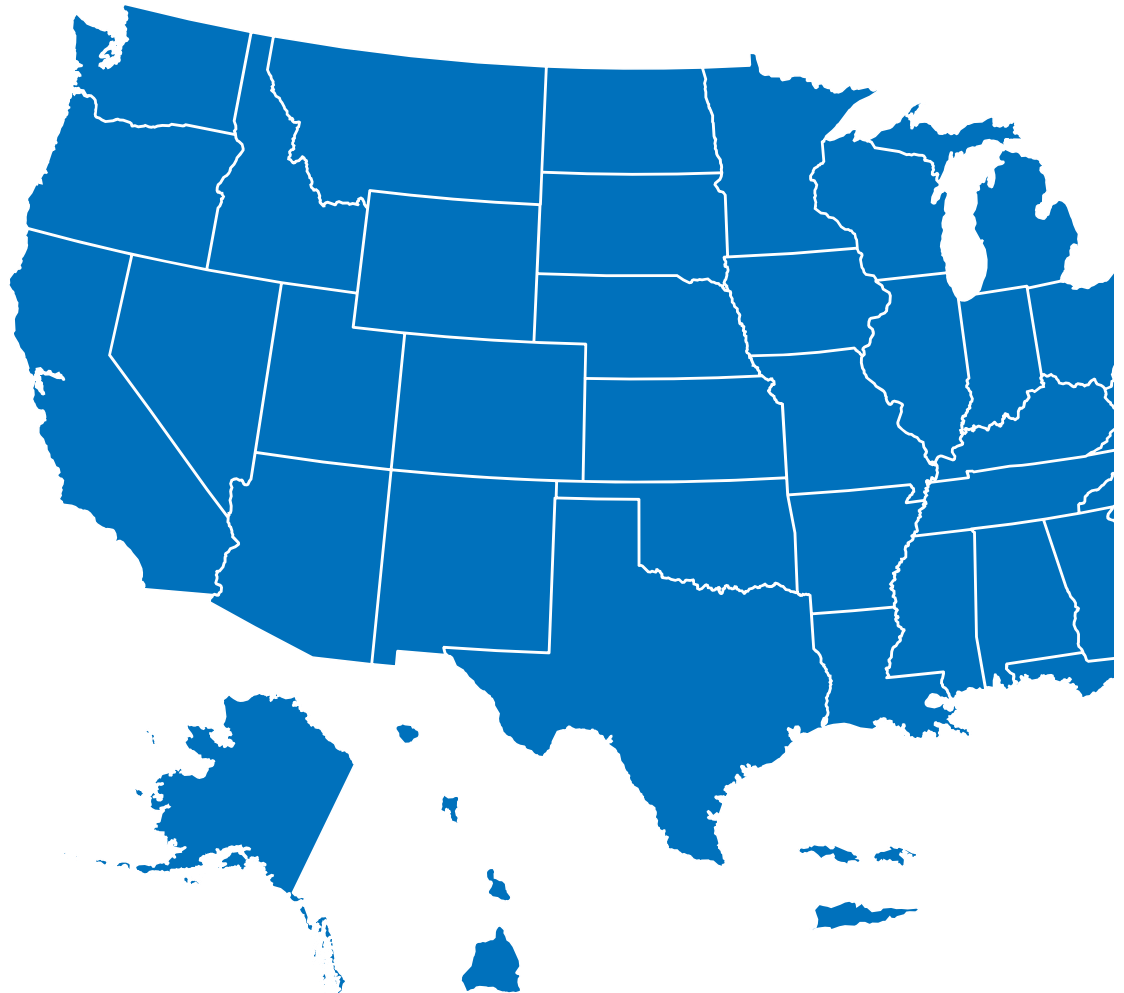
Please see the map and list below to find the contact information for your state in order to apply for Unemployment Benefits.

Find Your State Unemployment Insurance Office

-- Select a State --

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State Unemployment Insurance Offices

Search:

Alabama

Alabama Department of Labor

334-242-8025

<https://labor.alabama.gov/uc/ICCS/>

Alaska

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development

907-269-4700

<https://my.alaska.gov/>

Arizona

Arizona Department of Economic Security

1-877-600-2722

<https://des.az.gov/services/employment/unemployment-individual/apply-ui-benefits>

Arkansas

Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

501-682-2121

<https://www.ezarc.adws.arkansas.gov/>

California

California Employment Development Department

1-800-300-5616

https://edd.ca.gov/Unemployment/Filing_a_Claim.htm

Colorado

Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

303-318-9000

<https://www.colorado.gov/cdle/unemployment>

Connecticut

Connecticut Department of Labor

<http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/UI-OnLine/>

Delaware

Delaware Department of Labor

New Castle County: 302-761-6576

Other Areas: 1-800-794-3032

https://uics.delawareworks.com/Forms/Form_WL1

District of Columbia

District of Columbia Department of Employment Services

202-724-7000

<https://does.dcnetworks.org/InitialClaims/>

Florida

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

1-800-204-2418

<http://www.floridajobs.org/Reemployment-Assistance-Service-Center/reemployment-assistance/claimants/apply-for-benefits>

Georgia

Georgia Department of Labor

1-877-709-8185

<https://dol.georgia.gov/>

Hawaii

Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Oahu: 808-586-8970

Hilo: 808-974-4086

Kona: 808-322-4822

Maui: 808-984-8400

Kauai: 808-274-3043

<https://huiclaims.hawaii.gov/>

Idaho

Idaho Department of Labor

208-332-8942

<https://www2.labor.idaho.gov/ClaimantPortal/Login>

Illinois

Illinois Department of Employment Security

1-800-244-5631

<https://www2.illinois.gov/ides/individuals/UnemploymentInsurance/>

Indiana

Indiana Department of Workforce Development

1-800-891-6499

<https://www.in.gov/dwd/2362.htm>

Iowa

Iowa Workforce Development

1-866-239-0843

<https://uiclaims.iwd.iowa.gov/UIInitialClaim/>

Kansas

Kansas Department of Labor

1-800-292-6333

<https://www.getkansasbenefits.gov/>

Kentucky

Kentucky Career Center Office of Unemployment Insurance

502-564-2900

<https://kcc.ky.gov>

Louisiana

Louisiana Workforce Commission

1-866-783-5567

<https://www.louisianaworks.net/hire/vosnet/>

Maine

Maine Department of Labor

1-800-593-7660

<https://reemploye.maine.gov/accessme/faces/login/login.xhtml>

Maryland

Maryland Department of Labor

410-949-0022

<http://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/unemployment.shtml>

Massachusetts

Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance

617-626-6338

<https://www.mass.gov/unemployment-insurance-ui-online>

Michigan

Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

1-866-500-0017

https://www.michigan.gov/leo/0,5863,7-336-78421_97241---,00.html

Minnesota

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

Twin Cities Area: 651-296-3644

Greater Minnesota: 1-877-898-9090

<https://uimn.org/applicants/>

Mississippi

Mississippi Department of Employment Security

1-888-844-3577

<https://www.mdes.ms.gov/unemployment-claims/claims-information/>

Missouri

Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

1-800-320-2519

<https://uinteract.labor.mo.gov/benefits/home.do>

Montana

Montana Department of Labor and Industry

406-444-2545

<https://montanaworks.gov/Job-Seeker-UI-Claimant>

Nebraska

Nebraska Department of Labor

1-855-995-8863

<https://networks.nebraska.gov/vosnet/>

Nevada

Nevada Department of Employment Training and Rehabilitation

Northern Nevada: 775-684-0350

Southern Nevada: 702-486-0350

Rural Areas and Out of State Callers: 1-888-890-8211

<http://ui.nv.gov/css.html>

New Hampshire

New Hampshire Department of Employment Security

1-800-852-3400

<https://nhuis.nh.gov/claimant/>

New Jersey

New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development

North New Jersey: 201-601-4100

Central New Jersey: 732-761-2020

South New Jersey: 856-507-2340

Out-of-state claims: 1-888-795-6672

<https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/before/about/howtoapply/>

New Mexico

New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions

1-877-664-6984

<https://www.jobs.state.nm.us/vosnet/Default.aspx>

New York

New York Department of Labor

1-888-209-8124

<https://applications.labor.ny.gov/IndividualReg/>

North Carolina

North Carolina Department of Commerce

1-888-737-0259

<https://des.nc.gov/>

North Dakota

North Dakota Job Service

701-328-4995

<https://www.jobsnd.com/unemployment-individuals/resources-unemployment-individuals>

Ohio

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

1-877-644-6562

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/ouio/index.stm>

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Employment Security Commission

1-800-555-1554

<https://unemployment.state.ok.us/W2.aspx>

Oregon

Oregon Employment Department

1-877-345-3484

<https://secure.emp.state.or.us/ocs4/>

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

1-888-313-7284

<https://www.uc.pa.gov/unemployment-benefits/file/Pages/File%20an%20Initial%20Claim.aspx>

Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico Department of Labor and Human Resources

787-625-7900

https://www.trabajo.pr.gov/desempleo_en_linea.asp

Rhode Island

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

401-243-9100

<http://www.dlt.ri.gov/ui/>

South Carolina

South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce

1-866-831-1724

<https://dew.sc.gov/individuals/apply-for-benefits/claims-process>

South Dakota

South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation

605-626-3179

https://dlr.sd.gov/ra/individuals/file_claim.aspx

Tennessee

Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development

1-877-813-0950

<https://www.tn.gov/workforce/unemployment.html>

Texas

Texas Workforce Commission

1-800-939-6631

<https://www.twc.texas.gov/jobseekers/unemployment-benefits-services>

U.S. Virgin Islands

U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Labor

340-773-1994

<https://www.vidol.gov/how-and-where-to-apply/>

Utah

Utah Department of Workforce Services

Salt Lake and South Davis Counties: 801-526-4400

Weber and North Davis Counties: 801-612-0877

Utah County: 801-375-4067

Other Counties and Out of State: 1-888-848-0688

<https://jobs.utah.gov/ui/home/initialclaims>

Vermont

Vermont Department of Labor

1-888-807-7072

<https://labor.vermont.gov/unemployment-insurance/ui-claimants/establishing-unemployment-claim>

Virginia

Virginia Employment Commission

1-866-832-2363

<http://www.vec.virginia.gov/unemployed/online-services/apply-for-unemployment-benefits>

Washington

Washington Employment Security Department

1-800-318-6022

<https://secure.esd.wa.gov/home/>

West Virginia

Workforce West Virginia

1-800-379-1032

<https://uc.workforcewv.org/consumer/>

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development

1-844-910-3661

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/uiben/>

Wyoming

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

307-473-3789

<https://wyui.wyo.gov/benefits/home.do>

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Guidance

- [UIPL 16-20: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act of 2020 - Pandemic Unemployment Assistance \(PUA\) Program Operating, Financial, and Reporting Instructions](#)
- [UIPL 15-20: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act of 2020 - Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation \(FPUC\) Program Operating, Financial, and Reporting Instructions](#)
- [UIPL 14-20: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act of 2020 – Summary of Key Unemployment Insurance \(UI\) Provisions and Guidance Regarding Temporary Emergency State Staffing Flexibility](#)
- [UIPL 13-20: Families First Coronavirus Response Act, Division D Emergency Unemployment Insurance Stabilization and Access Act of 2020](#)
- [UIPL 10-20: Unemployment Compensation \(UC\) for Individuals Affected by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [UIPL 12-01: Outsourcing of Unemployment Compensation Administrative Functions](#)
- [UIPL No. 12-01, Change 1: Outsourcing of Unemployment Compensation Administrative Functions – Claims Taking](#)
- [ET Handbook No. 301 \(5th Edition, Change 1\), UI Performs: Benefits Timeliness and Quality. Nonmonetary Determinations Quality Review](#)
- [ET Handbook No. 395 \(5th Edition\), Revision to the State Operations Handbook for the Unemployment Insurance \(UI\) Benefit Accuracy Measurement \(BAM\) Program](#)
- [Short-Time Compensation \(STC\) landing page on WorkforceGPS](#)

Fact Sheets

- [General Unemployment Insurance Fact Sheet](#)

News Releases

- [U.S. Department of Labor Publishes Guidance on Pandemic Unemployment Assistance](#) (April 5, 2020)
- [U.S. Department of Labor Publishes Guidance on Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation](#) (April 4, 2020)
- [U.S. Department of Labor Announces New CARES Act Guidance on Unemployment Insurance for States in Response to COVID-19 Crisis](#) (April 2, 2020)
- [Statement by Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia on Unemployment Insurance Claims](#) (April 2, 2020)

Frequently Asked Questions

I am an independent contractor. Am I eligible for unemployment benefits under the CARES Act?

You may be eligible for unemployment benefits, depending on your personal circumstances and how your state chooses to implement the CARES Act. States are permitted to provide Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) to individuals who are self-employed, seeking part-time employment, or who otherwise would not qualify for regular unemployment compensation. To qualify for PUA benefits, you must not be eligible for regular unemployment benefits and be unemployed, partially unemployed, or unable or unavailable to work because of certain health or economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The PUA program provides up to 39 weeks of benefits, which are available retroactively starting with weeks of unemployment beginning on or after January 27, 2020, and ending on or before December 31, 2020. The amount of benefits paid out will vary by state and are calculated based on the weekly benefit amounts (WBA) provided under a state's unemployment insurance laws. Under the CARES Act, the WBA may be supplemented by the additional unemployment assistance provided under the Act.

I am about to exhaust my regular unemployment compensation benefits. What kinds of relief does the CARES Act provide for me?

Under the CARES Act states are permitted to extend unemployment benefits by up to 13 weeks under the new Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program. PEUC benefits are available for weeks of unemployment beginning after your state implements the new program and ending with weeks of unemployment ending on or before December 31, 2020. The program covers most individuals who have exhausted all rights to regular unemployment compensation under state or federal law and who are able to work, available for work, and actively seeking work as defined by state law. Importantly, the CARES Act gives states flexibility in determining whether you are “actively seeking work” if you are unable to search for work because of COVID-19, including because of illness, quarantine, or movement restrictions.

In addition, if you have exhausted the 13 weeks of additional benefits available under the PEUC program, you may be eligible to continue receiving benefits under the PUA program. PUA benefits are available for a period of unemployment of up to 39 weeks, meaning that if you have exhausted regular UC and PEUC benefits in fewer than 39 weeks, you may be eligible to receive assistance under PUA for the remaining weeks within PUA's 39 week period.

My regular unemployment compensation benefits do not provide adequate support given the unprecedented economic challenges caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. Can I expect to receive additional relief?

Yes, depending on how your state chooses to implement the CARES Act. The new law creates the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation program (FPUC), which provides an additional \$600 per week to individuals who are collecting regular UC (including Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) and Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers (UCX), PEUC, PUA, Extended Benefits (EB), Short Time Compensation (STC), Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA), Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA), and payments under the Self Employment Assistance (SEA) program). This benefit is available for weeks of unemployment beginning after the date on which your state entered into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor and ending with weeks of unemployment ending on or before July 31, 2020.

I run a nonprofit organization and am a reimbursing employer under my state's unemployment insurance program. Due to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am worried that I may be unable to timely reimburse the state for unemployment benefits it provides to my employees. What should I do?

Contact your state unemployment insurance office to learn what options may be available for delaying reimbursement payments. The CARES Act allows states to provide maximum flexibility to reimbursing employers as it relates to timely payments in lieu of contributions and assessment of penalties and interest. The U.S. Department of Labor will soon be issuing guidance on how states should implement this provision.

Am I Eligible for Regular Unemployment Compensation?

Each state sets its own unemployment insurance benefits eligibility guidelines, but you usually qualify if you:

- Are unemployed through no fault of your own. In most states, this means you have to have separated from your last job due to a lack of available work.
- Meet work and wage requirements. You must meet your state's requirements for wages earned or time worked during an established period of time referred to as a "base period." (In most states, this is usually the first four out of the last five completed calendar quarters before the time that your claim is filed.)
- Meet any additional state requirements. Find details of your [own state's program](#).

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1-866-487-2365
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