

If you're filing for UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE due to the Covid-19 pandemic, here is what you need to know.

The fastest way to apply is online at

<https://myunemployment.nj.gov/>

The unemployment insurance offices are getting a huge number of requests, so filing online is the best option.

If you have to apply by phone, use these numbers:

- **North NJ:** 201-601-4100
- **Central NJ:** 732-761-2020
- **South NJ:** 856-507-2340

In person applications are suspended at least until March 30.

What you need to file:

- Social Security Number.
- NJ driver's license number or photo ID card number.
- Address and phone number.
- W2's and paystubs
- Contact information & dates of employment for all employers over the last 18 months.
- Reason you lost your job.
- Amount of separation pay.
- Your recall date if you were only temporarily laid off.
- Information about your pension or 401k.
- Alien Registration Number (if applicable).

You may be eligible if:

- You lost your job through no fault of your own.
- You were working full time and your hours were reduced.
- You are able, available, and actively seeking work*.
- You have done some work in NJ in the past 18 months
- You earned \$200 per week for 20 weeks during the base period, or \$10,000 or more.
- Your employer voluntarily closed because of COVID-19
- Your employer was ordered closed due to COVID-19 and you've used your earned sick leave.

**If your layoff is due to COVID-19, you may be temporarily exempt from the requirement to be actively seeking work.*

If your claim is approved:

Ongoing filing requirements: Unemployment benefits are paid weekly, and for every week you want to claim benefits you must file for them. You can only file for a week of benefits once the week is over.

Job search: Each week you claim benefits, you are required to be looking for work. However, if your employer closed due to COVID-19, you may be temporarily exempt from this requirement.

Taxes: Federal tax is owed on unemployment benefits, but no state tax.

Weekly payment information:

Unemployment benefits are equal to 60% of the average weekly wage you earned during previous year, up to a maximum of \$713 per week.