

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://connect.myflorida.com/Claimant/Core/Login.ASPX>

If you need assistance while applying, call 1-800-681-8102  
Lines are open Mon-Fri during normal business hours. Expect busy signals, long waits or having to call back.

**What you need to file**

- Social Security number
- Drivers license or State ID Number
- Your Alien Registration card number (if you are not a U.S. Citizen and have a card)
- Names, addresses, phone numbers, and total wages of all your employers for the last 18 months
- Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) or employer details from a recent paystub

**NOTE: Upon becoming eligible, claimants must wait one week before receiving payments**

**You may be eligible if:**

- You are laid off by your employer due to COVID-19 concerns
- You are caring for an immediate family member who is diagnosed with COVID-19
- You are quarantined by a medical professional or a government agency
- You meet the minimum earnings threshold (<http://www.florida-unemployment.org/calculator>)

**If your claim is approved:**

- You must regularly file claims every two weeks, and within 7 days of your designated regular due date.
- You must actively search for work and submit five work search records per week, unless temporarily laid off for 8 weeks or less.
- Your benefits are taxable income, and you can choose to withhold earnings due with the IRS.

**Weekly payment information:**

Weekly payments are capped at \$275 or 1/26<sup>th</sup> of your quarterly earnings, whichever is less.

# *Pandemic Unemployment Compensation Benefits Under the New Federal CARES Act*

## **1. Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (PUC) and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation:**

- a. For workers who qualify for normal unemployment compensation benefits under their state program.
- b. Benefits:
  - An additional \$600 a week (until 7/31/2020) on top of state unemployment benefits.
  - Benefits are available for an additional 13 weeks beyond what the state provides.

## **2. Pandemic Unemployment Assistance:**

- a. For workers who do not qualify for regular unemployment compensation. You may qualify if you:
  - Are looking for part-time work
  - Have already used up your unemployment benefits
  - Do not have enough earnings to qualify for normal unemployment
  - Are self-employed
- b. You are not working because:
  - You cannot start work or get to work because of the emergency;
  - Your worksite is closed due to the emergency
  - You are diagnosed with COVID-19, have the symptoms of COVID-19 or self-quarantine under the direction of a health-care provider;
  - A member of your household has COVID-19 or you are caring for a member of your household with COVID-19;
    - You have to take care of a child whose school or childcare facility is closed
    - You are the major earner in your household because the head of household died from COVID-19
    - If you had to quit your job as a direct result of COVID-19
- c. Requirements:
  - You must certify that you are partially or fully unemployed and unable to work because of one or more of the reasons listed above
    - Cannot work from home
    - Are not receiving any paid sick leave
- d. Benefits:
  - Benefit amount is \$600 per week (until 7/31/2020) plus ½ of the state's average weekly unemployment benefit, except for those who were eligible but exhausted state unemployment benefits, the benefit amount is \$600 per week plus the full amount the state benefit.
  - Benefits are available for a maximum of 39 weeks (including any weeks which a worker received state unemployment benefits).

