

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

www.uc.pa.gov

The U.I. offices are getting a tremendous number of requests, filing online is the best option.

**If you have to apply by phone,
call 888-313-7284**

Lines are not open Wednesday until 2PM or Friday afternoon. Expect busy signals, long waits or having to call back.

What you need to file:

- Social Security Number
- Mailing address
- Email address if signing up online

Note: The waiting week is temporarily suspended. Eligible claimants may receive benefits for the first week they are unemployed.

If your claim is approved:

Ongoing filing requirements: Approved claims must be filed every two weeks (Sunday or any day during the following week till Friday 4PM).

Taxes: Federal tax owed, not PA or local municipality taxes.

Job search: Temporarily waived for all claimants. Claimants are not required to prove they have applied or searched for a new job to maintain their UC benefits. Claimants are also not required to register with www.PACareerLink.gov.

*****See the "Pandemic Unemployment Compensation Benefits" information below for details about expanded unemployment compensation benefits under the recently passed federal law*****

You may be eligible if:

- Your job or worksite closes and you are not reassigned
- You have one job, work part-time & your hours are reduced
- You have more than one job and your total hours are reduced below full time (30/hrs. a week)
- You've been told not to work to mitigate Covid-19 spreading.
- You've been told to quarantine or self-isolate

Weekly payment

information: Weekly UC check amount approximately ½ weekly gross pay up to (\$573 max) for up to 26 weeks.

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).