

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://www.vawc.virginia.gov/vosnet/>

If you have to apply by phone 1-866-832-2363

(Available 8:15am to 4:30pm, Monday - Friday)

What you need to file:

- Social Security number
- Names and addresses of all your employers for the last 18 months.
- Your Alien Registration card number if you are not a U.S. Citizen and have a card.
- You will be asked to select a method of payment: VA Debit Card or Direct Deposit. If you select Direct Deposit, you will need to have your bank's Routing Number and your Account Number.

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

You may be eligible if:

- An employer needs to temporarily slow or cease operations due to COVID-19.
- You have been told to self-quarantine by a medical or public health official and are not receiving paid sick or medical leave from their employer.
- You must stay home to care for an ill family member and are not receiving paid family medical leave from their employer.

If your claim is approved:

Ongoing filing requirements: Approved claims must be filed on a weekly basis. Weekly requests must be filed when the claim week ends (after midnight on Saturday).

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

Job search: Temporarily waived for all claimants. Claimants are required to prove they have applied or searched for a new job to maintain their UI benefits.

Weekly payment information:

The maximum benefit is \$378/week. Benefit duration varies from 12 to 26 weeks.

Information is changing rapidly. For official info check with the state unemployment office.



Additional Federal Benefits

1. The Federal *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* provides additional benefits to workers who qualify for UI benefits under state programs and to workers who do not qualify for their state program or have exhausted their state UI benefits.
2. Workers who *qualify* for state UI benefits described above may receive Pandemic Unemployment Compensation and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation.
 - a. Benefits available:
 - i. An additional \$600 a week on top of state UI benefits through July 31, 2020.
 - ii. Benefits are available for 39 weeks, not the usual 26 weeks
3. For workers who *do not qualify* for regular state unemployment compensation, or have *exhausted their benefits*:
 - a. You may qualify for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance if you:
 - i. Are looking for part-time work
 - ii. Do not have enough earnings to qualify for normal unemployment
 - iii. Are self-employed
 - iv. 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
 - b. Requirements:
 - i. You must certify that you are partially or fully unemployed and unable to work because of one or more of the reasons listed above
 - ii. You cannot work from home
 - iii. You are not receiving any paid sick leave
 - c. Benefits:
 - i. Benefits are available for a maximum of 39 weeks (including any weeks which a worker received state unemployment benefits)
 - ii. 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 amount is \$600 per week plus the full amount of the state benefit

