

Expanded unemployment benefits under the CARES Act



Who is eligible?

Anyone who lost their full-time or part-time job or is working reduced hours due to the impact of COVID-19.

Eligible individuals include:



People who have COVID-19 symptoms, are quarantined, or are caring for someone who has COVID-19.



People who were supposed to start a job but no longer can.



People who can't work because they are caring for someone whose school or other facility closed.

Important: Through the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program, those who don't normally qualify for traditional unemployment - like the self-employed - can now receive unemployment benefits. That includes gig workers, such as rideshare workers, who can't work because many people no longer need rides.

⊘ You **do not qualify** for unemployment benefits if you can work from home with pay or are getting paid leave while out of work.

What are the benefits?

Weekly unemployment benefits consist of **two parts**:

- 1 The benefit amount traditionally allowed in your state.
The formula used to calculate this amount varies by state, as does the maximum weekly benefit.
- 2 An **additional \$600 a week** of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation.
You can receive this amount even if you exhausted your state benefits.



\$600

The additional \$600 more than doubles the weekly maximum unemployment benefits in most states.

39 Weeks

Benefits that typically last up to 26 weeks, now last up to 39 weeks. The CARES Act provides 13 extra weeks of support.

How do I apply?

File online or by phone through your state's unemployment office. Find contact information at [CareerOneStop.org](https://www.careeronestop.org).



To qualify, you'll be asked to self-certify that you cannot work due to:

- Being diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19
- Your household being impacted
- Your employer closing due to the virus

Information needed for your claim varies by state, but typically, you need:

Your information

- Your name, Social Security number and driver's license number (if you have one). If you are a noncitizen, you will need your alien registration number and expiration date.
- Your mailing address and phone number.
- Your bank information (address, routing number, and account number) for direct deposit. This is typically optional.

Employment history

- Name of your employer (as it appears on your pay stub or W-2)
- Complete address and phone number of the employer
- Supervisor's name
- Start and end date
- Wage information, including how you were paid (hourly, weekly, monthly)
- Reason you are no longer working