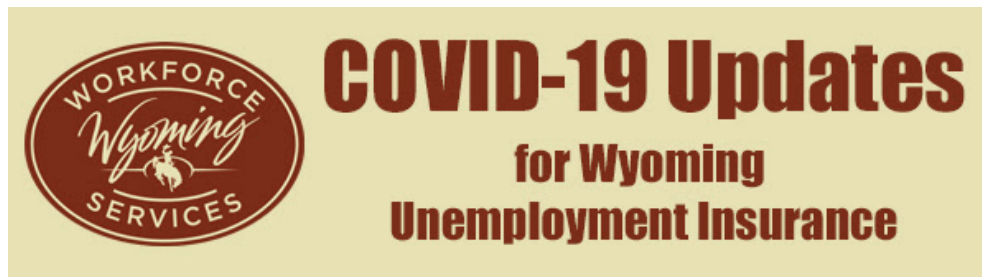




Important information about Unemployment Insurance

Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 3:02 PM



Unemployment Insurance continues after FPUC ends

During the COVID-19 pandemic, more Unemployment Insurance services and benefits are available than usual. One of those benefits is commonly called the FPUC. The FPUC is the program which provided \$600 a week in addition to an Unemployment Insurance benefit based on income. The FPUC expired on July 25, 2020. The following describes Unemployment Insurance services and benefits in an effort to help Claimants understand the current status of benefits and services.

Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) payments

FPUC provided an additional \$600 per week to all eligible Unemployment Insurance claims between March 29 and July 25, 2020. This program ended on July 25, and the final \$600 will be applied to claims paid for that week. Although Congress is debating a new program to replace the FPUC, for the time being, Claimants will not receive this \$600/week benefit, but eligible Claimants will continue to receive the following benefits.

Regular Unemployment Insurance

Regular Unemployment Insurance is available at any time to those who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own, such as through a layoff. To be eligible, the employee must have worked a certain number of hours during the previous year, and he or she must have

UNEMPLOYMENT NEWS

UI staff focuses on resolving "issues on file"

In order to resolve the "Issue on File" messages that are holding up many claimants' benefit payments, the UI call center will be unavailable on Wednesday, July 29.

There are many reasons a person's claim can be held up due to an issue. Some reasons include:

- Proof of payment for severance, vacation, bonus or sick pay
- Claimant reporting Social Security payments
- Erroneously answering "yes" when asked if claimant is receiving Workers' Compensation payments (many claimants mistakenly click "yes" thinking Workers' Compensation is Unemployment Insurance)
- Failure to register for work on WyomingAtWork.com
- Voluntary separation or discharge from work
- Failure to conduct and report at least two work searches each week

For more information about "issue on file" messages, please click the

worked for an employer who paid into the Unemployment Insurance system. The minimum Unemployment Insurance benefit for those who qualify is \$38 per week, and the maximum benefit is \$526 per week. Regular Unemployment Insurance is available for up to 26 weeks, which do not have to be consecutive, during a one-year period.

Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)

This benefit provides a 13-week extension for those claimants receiving regular Unemployment Insurance benefits. Claimants who qualify for PEUC will receive their regular Unemployment Insurance benefits for an additional 13 weeks after the original 26 weeks have been expended. This program is available to claimants who are unemployed between March 29 and Dec. 26, 2020, and claimants must apply for this benefit.

Extended Benefits

Claimants who have exhausted their regular Unemployment Insurance and PEUC benefits may be eligible for Extended Benefits. This state-administered extension is automatically applied to eligible claims. Those who qualify need only continue submitting continued claims.

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)

Many people do not qualify for regular Unemployment Insurance because they worked for an employer who did not pay into the Unemployment Insurance system (such as churches, non-profit organizations, etc.) or are self-employed, contract workers or gig economy workers. The CARES Act provides assistance to those who do not qualify for regular Unemployment Insurance through the PUA. This program applies similar benefits as regular Unemployment Insurance. For PUA, the minimum weekly benefit is \$193, the maximum weekly benefit is \$526, and claimants may receive these benefits for 39 weeks. This program is available through the week ending December 26, 2020.

"Issue on File" tab on our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

During the Wednesday work session, questions can still be answered by the external call center at 888-674-7699, and claims can be filed at any time, day or night, at WYUI.wyo.gov.

Unemployment Insurance call center expands hours

In order to reduce hold times and help as many people as possible, the Unemployment Insurance call center has expanded its operational hours. The call center will now open at 7 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and those callers who are in the on-hold queue by 6 p.m. will be kept on the line until their calls are answered. The call center will not take phone calls on Wednesdays. Wednesdays are reserved for staff work sessions.

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Frequently Asked Questions

Virtual Town Hall Series

COVID-19-related Workforce Information

Wyoming Department of Health COVID-19 Information

Contact your local Workforce Center

Department of Labor resources

DWS COVID-19 News Archive

Visit the DWS COVID-19 Resources Page at WyomingWorkforce.org/COVID19-Resources

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