

COVID – 19 FAQs For Employees:

What do I do if the business I work for closes temporarily or I get laid off?

The EDD provides a variety of support services to individuals affected by COVID-19 in California. If you're unable to work due to having or being exposed to COVID-19 (certified by a medical professional), you can [file a Disability Insurance \(DI\) claim](#).

- DI provides short-term benefit payments to eligible workers who have a full or partial loss of wages due to a non-work-related illness, injury, or pregnancy. Benefit amounts are approximately 60-70 percent of wages (depending on income) and range from \$50-\$1,300 a week.
- The [Governor's Executive Order](#) waives the one-week unpaid waiting period, so you can collect DI benefits for the first week you are out of work. If you are eligible, the EDD processes and issues payments within a few weeks of receiving a claim.
- Unemployment insurance will also cover: parents that have to stay home to take care of dependents due to school closures, reduced work hours, and those that are self-employed.
- Toll-free from the U.S. or Canada: 1-888-745-3886

As of 3/12 the federal Department of Labor [announced](#) it was giving states flexibility in expanding/distributing unemployment insurance to assist workers affected by the coronavirus. In addition, [Governor Newsom signed a new Executive Order](#) on 3/12 that waives the one-week unpaid waiting period for unemployment insurance (UI) applications, meaning individuals can collect UI benefits for the first week they are out of work. However, please note that it can still take EDD a few weeks for the first payment to arrive at a client's mailbox/bank account.

<https://www.edd.ca.gov/unemployment/>

Employees who need leave to take care of children or family issues can also apply for **Paid Family Leave (PFL)** through the State of California EDD. Use the online application here:

[https://www.edd.ca.gov/Disability/How to File a PFL Claim in SDI Online.htm](https://www.edd.ca.gov/Disability/How_to_File_a_PFL_Claim_in_SDI_Online.htm)

CRA Foundation (CRAF) is providing grants focused on restaurant workers who are:

- (1) diagnosed with coronavirus (COVID-19) or
- (2) those who have been quarantined with a doctor's note.

To apply, [click here](#).

What if I am a part-time employee and my hours get cut?

Employers can apply for the **Unemployment Insurance (UI) Work Sharing Program** if reduced production, services, or other conditions cause them to seek an alternative to layoffs.

The Work Sharing Program helps employees whose hours and wages have been reduced:

- Receive UI benefits.

- Keep their current job.
- Avoid financial hardships.

The Work Sharing Program helps employers:

- Minimize or eliminate the need for layoffs.
- Keep trained employees and quickly prepare when business conditions improve.
- Avoid the cost of recruiting, hiring, and training new employees.

https://www.edd.ca.gov/unemployment/Work_Sharing_Program.htm

What if I can't afford to pay my rent or utilities?

Governor Gavin Newsom issued an executive order that authorizes local governments to halt evictions for renters and homeowners, slows foreclosures, and protects against utility shutoffs for Californians affected by COVID-19. The order does not relieve a tenant from the obligation to pay rent, or restrict the landlord's ability to recover rent that is due. The protections are in effect through May 31, 2020, unless extended. The order also requests banks and other financial institutions to halt foreclosures and related evictions during this time period. The full Executive Order can be found [here](#).

Los Angeles County utilities are providing resources and relief to eligible residents. Please visit this web page for future updates.

- Public Works will not shut off or stop services for customers who are delinquent or behind in service or permit payments until this order is lifted. This includes water, sewer and trash pick-up services. For any inquires, Public Works' 24 hour/7 day dispatch number is **800-675-4357**.
- Southern California Edison is implementing the following provisions immediately: Suspension of Disconnections for Non-Payment
 - o Eligibility: All Residential and Commercial Customers
 - o Effective immediately, SCE will suspend disconnections for non-payment
 - o Flexible Payment Plans to Impacted Customers
 - o Eligibility: Customers who contact SCE and self-identify as being impacted financially by the COVID-19 emergency
 - § Customers with current accounts – Will be offered a one-time, up to 60-day, extension
 - § Customers with past due amounts – Will be offered up to 6-month payment arrangement
 - § SCE will work with the customer to accommodate a customer's unique situation that may result in a payment arrangement for up to 12 months.
 - § Visit [Southern California Edison](#) or [Clean Power Alliance](#) for more information.

What if I don't have paid sick leave?

California's EDD provides a variety of support services to individuals affected by COVID-19 in California. If you're unable to work due to having or being exposed to COVID-19 (certified by a medical professional), you can [file a Disability Insurance \(DI\) claim](#).

- DI provides short-term benefit payments to eligible workers who have a full or partial loss of wages due to a non-work-related illness, injury, or pregnancy. Benefit amounts are approximately 60-70 percent of wages (depending on income) and range from \$50-\$1,300 a week.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

<https://wdacs.lacounty.gov/covid-19/>

<https://lacounty.gov/covid19/>

<http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.labor.ca.gov/coronavirus2019/>

https://lacounty.gov/covid19/frequently-asked-questions/?fbclid=IwAR2FPUhEUHyNvFhEOWQyklormIrrk_URMv1NIBmatJ3SyY2mjrLiHuvvGHE