



COVID-19 Information for Workers

Unemployment benefits are available for workers who are temporarily out of work through no fault of their own. Executive Order 2020-10 temporarily expands eligibility for unemployment benefits workers who are temporarily out of work due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). This executive order is effective immediately.

Under the Governor's order, unemployment benefits are extended to:

- Workers who have an unanticipated family care responsibility, including those who have childcare responsibilities due to school closures, or those who are forced to care for loved ones who become ill.
- Workers who are sick, quarantined, or immunocompromised and who do not have access to paid family and medical leave or are laid off.
- First responders in the public health community who become ill or are quarantined due to exposure to COVID-19.

Access to benefits for unemployed workers will also be extended:

- Claimants are not required to register for work.
- For those workers indicating in their claim filing that they expect to return to work with the same employer within 120 days, the application for benefits will be used to satisfy the seeking work requirement.
- The number of weeks a person may receive benefits is increased from 20 to 26 weeks.

A claim for unemployment benefits begins the week it is filed. Workers should file their claim during their first week of unemployment.

There are two ways to file a new claim or re-open an existing claim:

- **FASTEST AND PREFERRED METHOD:** Online – Visit www.michigan.gov/uia and sign into MILogin to access or create an account on the Michigan Web Account Manager (MiWAM). For step by step instructions on how to create an account, view the [MiWAM Toolkit for Claimants](#) at michigan.gov/uia
- Telephone – Call 1-866-500-0017. If you are hearing impaired, TTY service is available at 1-866-366-0004.

See the UIA website at Michigan.gov/uia for [Information needed to file a claim](#)



Eligibility for Benefits

The agency determines if a person is eligible for benefits by looking at the amount of earnings, employment history and wage information for a specific period of time, or base period. A base period is a one-year period which is divided up into 4 quarters. The wages earned in the quarters used for the base period help determine the dollar amount a person may be eligible to receive weekly and for how many weeks of unemployment.

- The worker must have wages in at least 2 quarters in the base period.
 - One of the two quarters must be at least \$3,744.00
 - The amount of the earnings in all 4 quarters of the base period must be at least 1.5 times the amount of wages earned
- It does not matter if the employment was full time or part-time or paid on commission, salary, hourly or tips.

What to Expect

- After you file for benefits, you will receive Form UIA 1575C, *Monetary Determination*, which includes information such as your weekly benefit amount, the number of weeks you are allowed, and when to begin certifying. To continue to receive unemployment benefits, a person must certify every other week that they are eligible. You may certify online through the Michigan Web Account Manager (MiWAM) at Michigan.gov/uia or by phone at 1-866-638-3993.

More information is available on the UIA website at Michigan.gov/uia.

- [Fact Sheet 160 – Claiming Unemployment Benefits in Michigan.](#)
- [MiWAM Toolkit for Claimants](#) for step by step instructions on creating your MiWAM account.
- [Unemployment Benefits in Michigan – A Handbook for Unemployed Workers](#)
- [Information needed to file a claim](#)