Unemployment Insurance Agency
FACT SHEET
State of Michigan • Labor and Economic Opportunity

FACT SHEET #175 July 2026

Fulfilling the UIA's Work Search Requirement for Union Members

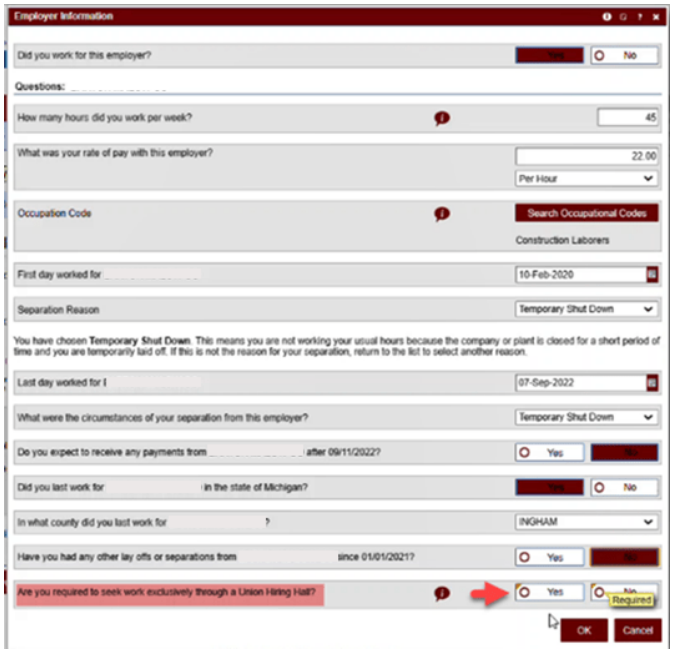
Union members that must seek work only through their union hiring hall

When an individual becomes unemployed and applies for unemployment benefits, one of the requirements to receive benefits is to register with Michigan Works! and actively search for work.

If you are a member of a union that **must seek work only through the union hiring hall**, you are not required to register with Michigan Works!, but you still must actively search for work and report at least three unique work search activities for each week you claim benefits.

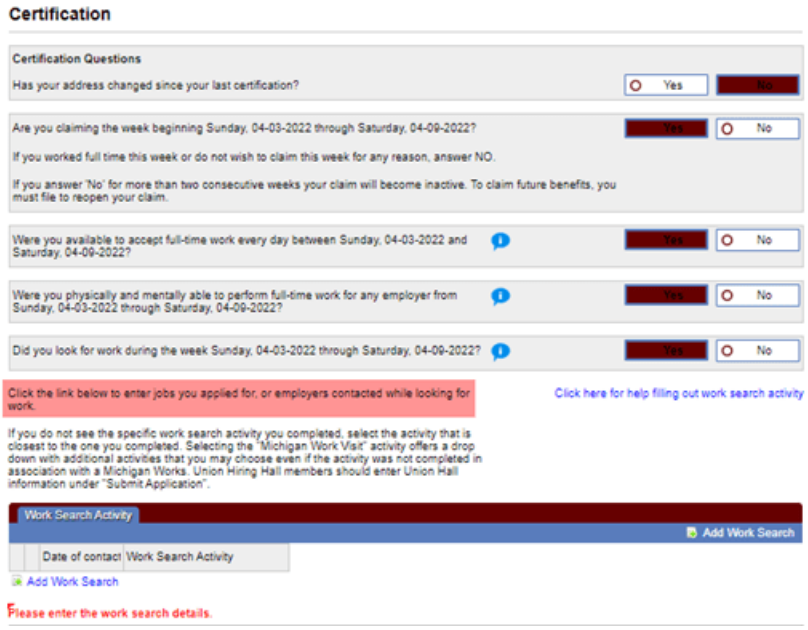
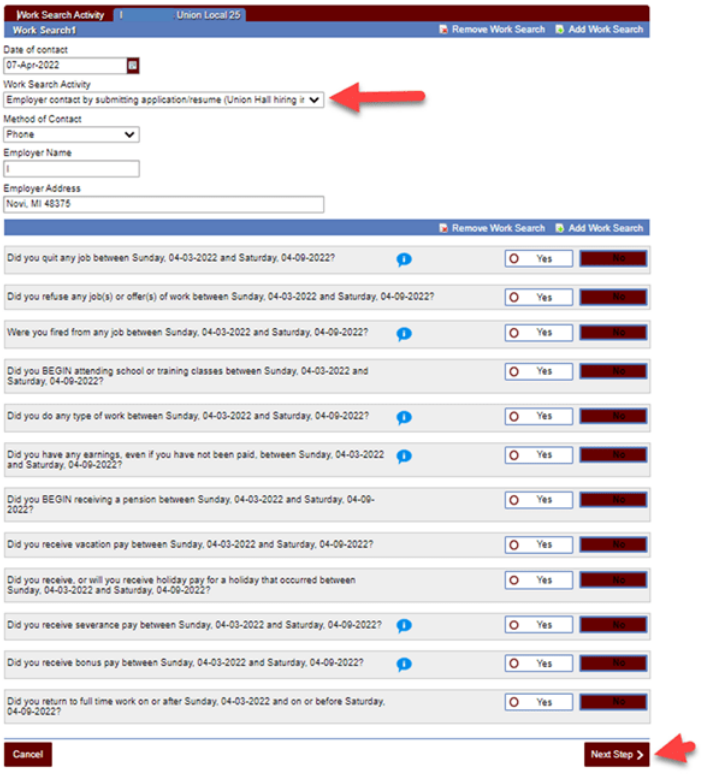
When applying for benefits, be sure to select yes when asked "Are you required to seek work exclusively through a Union Hiring Hall?"

You will then be asked "Are you a member in good standing with the Union?" A member is considered in good standing if they have remained current on organization dues and payments.



Complete the remaining screens. Once your claim filing is complete, you will see "union member in good standing" under waiver detail on your account in MiWAM.

When completing your bi-weekly certification you will be required to enter your work search activity. Click Add Work Search to enter the jobs you applied for, or employers contacted while looking for work.



When adding your work search activity, be sure to select "Employer contact by submitting application/resume" as your work search activity.