



## PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (PEUC)

The federal government passed the CARES Act, which includes Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC). PEUC is a temporary federal program that provides an additional twenty-four (24) weeks of unemployment benefits, beyond the regular twenty-six (26) weeks already provided.

### WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Individuals whose regular unemployment benefits exhausted on or after July 6, 2019 **MUST apply** in order to receive PEUC benefits.

Individuals who are still within their unemployment benefit year **DO NOT** need to apply. After you receive the balance of your regular unemployment benefits, you will be **automatically enrolled** in the PEUC program for the additional twenty-four (24) weeks of benefits.

### HOW DO I APPLY?

The best way to apply is online at <http://www.uc.pa.gov>, and follow the link to “**File for PEUC**.” If you are without internet access, an **EUC-8 APPLICATION WILL BE MAILED** toward the end of your claim for you to file.

You **CANNOT** apply in advance; if you are still unemployed, you may complete the application once your benefit year has expired.

### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

If needed, the Department of Labor & Industry **may** conduct an eligibility review and will contact you directly to conduct that review.

You will receive a **PEUC Financial Determination** in the mail that indicates your **weekly benefit amount (WBA) and maximum amount of PEUC benefits**. Your appeal rights under PEUC are the same as those for regular UC.

**PLEASE NOTE:** You **will receive an extra \$300 a week** in addition to your weekly benefits, which **will not** be reflected in the WBA. Those additional funds are paid beginning after December 26, 2020 and end March 13, 2021.

## HOW DO I CLAIM WEEKLY BENEFITS?

Similar to regular unemployment, you **WILL NEED** to continue biweekly filing:

- If you are automatically enrolled (i.e. **still within your regular unemployment benefit year**), then **continue to use your same UC pin and continue biweekly filing.**

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

1. If your **bi-weekly claim is inactive and you know you have multiple UC claims on file**, it is possible that your claim did not set up because space for new claims was limited. The Department of Labor & Industry is working toward a remedy, and update will be provided when available.
  2. If you were **recently paid for one week only**, your biweekly cycle may have shifted. As such, you will need to begin your biweekly filing the week after you filed for your regular unemployment benefits.
- PEUC Applicants (i.e. **your unemployment year expired, and you applied for PEUC**) will use the **UC Pin from your previous claim**. You will begin your biweekly filing **once your application has been processed AND you receive your PEUC financial determination.**

## WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT THE MISSING CLAIM WEEKS IF I AM AN INDIVIDUAL WHO LAST FILED FOR BENEFITS ON DECEMBER 26, 2020?

The Department of Labor & Industry has identified and fixed this issue, and claimants should:

- **Reopen their claim** and **begin filing in two (2) weeks** if you last filed **BEFORE** December 26<sup>th</sup>.
- **Email UChelp@pa.gov** if you need to request backdating for the weeks between January 2<sup>nd</sup> and January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The extension became available on **Sunday, January 24, 2021.**

## REGISTRATION AND WORK SEARCH

Under Pennsylvania's emergency rules currently in place due to COVID-19, **the requirement to register and search for work has been waived, but only for the duration of the Pennsylvania disaster declaration.**

*For help in this type of matter contact Northwestern Legal Services  
to apply for services at 800-800-665-6957 or apply online at [www.nwls.org](http://www.nwls.org)*



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