



EXPANDED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS DURING COVID-19

The federal government passed the CARES Act, which included supplemental unemployment benefits in order to provide additional relief to unemployed workers.

FEDERAL PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (FPUC)

- Provides an additional **\$300 per week**, on top of regular benefits to all UC, PEUC, PUA, and EB recipients
 - If you are **already approved** for benefits, then you **do not need to do anything**. Your benefits will automatically be updated.

THESE BENEFITS RUN UNTIL MARCH 13, 2021.

PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE (PUA)

- Expanded eligibility for individuals who have traditionally been ineligible for UC benefits.
 - You should file for PUA if you are ineligible for regular unemployment because you have lost income due to COVID-19 and:
 - Are self-employed (includes independent contractors, gig economy workers, and workers for certain religious entities), or
 - Are seeking part-time work, or
 - Lack sufficient work history, or
 - Have exhausted all rights to regular unemployment or extended benefits.
- Provides up to **39 weeks of benefits**
- This is a **SEPARATE** application, and those applying for PUA **SHOULD NOT** file a claim through the regular unemployment system.
 - Please visit www.uc.pa.gov/unemployment-benefits/file/Pages/Filing-for-PUA.aspx to apply and for additional information about what documentation is needed to apply for PUA.

PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (PEUC)

- Provides an **additional 24 weeks** of unemployment benefits, beyond the regular 26 weeks already provided, for a total of 50 weeks of benefits.
 - If you have **exhausted your 26 weeks of UC benefits after July 6, 2019**, here's what you should do:
 - **BENEFIT YEAR HAS EXPIRED** – this occurs one year (52 weeks) after

your regular unemployed application for benefits date, and **you SHOULD APPLY for PEUC online.**

- **STILL WITHIN BENEFIT YEAR** – you **SHOULD NOT APPLY** because you will automatically be enrolled in the PEUC programs for the additional 24 weeks of benefits

PENNSYLVANIA EXTENDED BENEFITS (EB)

- Benefits offered from the State which become available **after regular UC benefits and PEUC** are exhausted
 - There is **NO APPLICATION**: those eligible will receive a letter in the mail after their PEUC claim is exhausted
 - Weekly certification filings are done exactly as filers did for their UC and PEUC benefits
- Provides up to **13 weeks of benefits**

If you need assistance or have questions, contact Northwestern Legal Services by calling 1-800-665-6957 or apply at www.nwls.org



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