



CARES Act and Unemployment Insurance Frequently Asked Questions

Note: This information is updated frequently. Please check back for updates.

On March 27, 2020, Congress passed a federal stimulus package known as the CARES Act, or the Relief for Workers Affected by Coronavirus Act. Within this act are three benefits that unemployed individuals may be eligible for. These benefits are outlined below and additional questions are answered throughout this document.

- **BENEFIT 1 - INCREASED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS**
This emergency benefit provides most individuals an emergency increase in traditional unemployment insurance benefits of \$600 per week through July 31, 2020.
- **BENEFIT 2 - PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE**
This emergency benefit provides up to 39 weeks of unemployment insurance benefits to people not otherwise eligible for regular unemployment, including the self-employed and those who have exhausted their regular and extended benefits.
- **BENEFIT 3 - PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION**
This benefit provides an additional 13 weeks of emergency unemployment insurance for people who remain unemployed after they have exhausted their traditional unemployment benefits.

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[BENEFIT 1- INCREASED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS](#)

[BENEFIT 2 - PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE \(Separate Document\)](#)

[BENEFIT 3 - PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION](#)

GENERAL

If I already filed for unemployment benefits do I need to apply again?

If you have applied for or are currently receiving unemployment benefits, you do **not** need to apply again to access these benefits.

When will these resources be available?

The federal stimulus package known as the CARES Act has passed and [BENEFIT 1](#) is available as of Wednesday, April 8, 2020. The application for [BENEFIT 2](#) is available as of Wednesday, April 15, 2020. Federal guidance on how to administer [BENEFIT 3](#) was received on Friday, April 10, 2020, and is actively being created. These new programs will take time to implement but we are doing so as quickly as possible. Please continue to check this FAQ for the latest information regarding the CARES Act benefits.

BENEFIT 1 - INCREASED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS

If I have a pending unemployment application, do I need to apply again for the additional \$600?

No, if you are currently filing for benefits there is no additional action you need to take beyond filing your weekly claims as long as you remain eligible for unemployment.

If I am currently receiving unemployment benefits do I need to apply again for the additional \$600?

No, there is no additional action you need to take beyond filing your weekly claims as long as you remain eligible for unemployment. The benefit will be retroactively provided to individuals that already received an unemployment benefit during the week of March 29 through April 4, 2020 and those that have already received a payment the week beginning April 5, 2020. These retroactive payments may take several days to process.

Will the additional \$600 come a different way than my regular unemployment benefit?

No, you will receive the benefit in the same way you receive your traditional unemployment benefit.

When will I start to see the additional \$600 on my unemployment?

The benefit will be included as part of your traditional unemployment benefit payments authorized from April 8, 2020 and thereafter.

Will I get an additional \$600 for weeks in the past?

The benefit will be retroactively provided to individuals that already received an unemployment benefit during the week of March 29 through April 4, 2020 and those that have already received a payment the week beginning April 5, 2020. These retroactive payments may take several days to process.

Will any additional income I received through these benefits impact my eligibility for unemployment benefits?

No, funds you receive as a result of this stimulus package will not impact your income eligibility as it is not considered earned income.

BENEFIT 2 - PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

[Frequently Asked Questions \(Separate Page\)](#)

BENEFIT 3 - PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

If I have a pending unemployment application do I need to apply again for the additional 13 weeks?

No, if you are currently filing for and receiving unemployment benefits there is no additional action you need to take beyond filing your weekly claims as long as you are unemployed.

If I was receiving unemployment in the past and I used up all of my eligible weeks, do I need to reapply for unemployment benefits?

The 13 week extension of benefit is effective for any unemployment insurance claims weeks filed after 03/29/20. At this time we are unable to process any weeks of extensions while reprogramming our system. We encourage you to continue to check this FAQ for regular updates. Please do not call the claims assistance team for updates as these updates will only be provided online.

When will I begin to receive my 13 weeks of extended unemployment benefits?

The law has been passed by Congress and the Department of Labor provided guidance to all states on the proper administration of the program and how to properly draw down the additional federal funds on April 10, 2020. Now that the guidance has been received, the division must build and deploy the program for Utah. We encourage you to continue to check this FAQ for regular updates. Please do not call the claims assistance team for updates as these updates will only be provided online.

If I was on unemployment benefits in the past, but am currently employed, should I apply for the additional 13 weeks?

No. This benefit provides an additional 13 weeks of emergency unemployment insurance for people who remain unemployed after they have exhausted their traditional unemployment benefits. Because you are employed, you do not qualify.