



COVID-19: Worker Resources

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Many of you may have heard Governor Newsom's announcement regarding additional Unemployment Benefits provided by the CARE's Act for workers impacted by COVID-19. Below is information from the EDD website regarding this update:

[COVID-19 main page](#)

[COVID-19 FAQs](#)

Did you apply for unemployment insurance? Learn about the next steps for your unemployment insurance claim.

Latest News for Workers

Starting Sunday, for the week ending April 11, 2020, the EDD will begin paying an additional \$600 on top of your current weekly benefit amount with the extra money coming from the federal government as part of the federal CARES Act. Here's what you need to know:

- Claimants do not need to do anything to receive this extra funding. The EDD will automatically add the full \$600 to each week of current benefits that are paid every two weeks, as long you are eligible for at least \$1 in a regular payment each week.
- For someone receiving the most recent average Unemployment Insurance payment of \$340 a week, a usual biweekly payment would equal \$680. With the extra payment, that biweekly payment would increase to \$1,880.
- The first week the additional payments can be made is for the week ending April 4, not before. Separate retroactive payments will be automatically issued soon to those who had an active claim that week, and the \$600 extra payments can continue to those who remain impacted and otherwise eligible for benefits through the week ending July 31, 2020.

- If you're self-employed, visit the [Pandemic Unemployment Assistance](#) page for more information on this new federally funded program being established.
- If you received a UI award notice that shows \$0 in wages, you may still qualify for benefits. We may need more information from you to process your claim. Visit the Unemployment Insurance Benefits section of the [Coronavirus 2019](#) FAQs for more information.
- For faster processing, read [How to Set Up a UI Online Account \(DE 2338H\) \(PDF\)](#) to help you apply for benefits.
- For help completing the application, call your local [America's Job Center of CaliforniaSM](#) to schedule a phone appointment with an EDD representative.
- It takes at least three weeks to process a claim for unemployment benefits and issue payment to most eligible workers. We appreciate your patience.
- Federal funds are available to get you back to work quickly, including supportive services for basic needs, such as housing, child care, and transportation costs. For more information, visit [COVID-19 Additional Funds for Workers and Businesses](#).

Sick or Quarantined

If you're unable to work due to having or being exposed to COVID-19 (certified by a medical professional), you can [file a Disability Insurance \(DI\) claim](#). DI provides short-term benefit payments to eligible workers who have a full or partial loss of wages due to a non-work-related illness, injury, or pregnancy. Benefit amounts are approximately 60-70 percent of wages (depending on income) and range from \$50-\$1,300 a week.

Telehealth and virtual appointments are acceptable for a physical examination, but medical certifications are still required.

The [Governor's Executive Order](#) waives the one-week unpaid waiting period, so you can collect DI benefits for the first week you are out of work. If you are eligible, the EDD processes and issues payments within a few weeks of receiving a claim.

For guidance on the disease, visit the [California Department of Public Health website](#).

Caregiving

If you're unable to work because you are caring for an ill or quarantined family member with COVID-19 (certified by a medical professional), you can [file a Paid Family Leave \(PFL\) claim](#). PFL provides up to six weeks of benefit payments to eligible workers who have a full or partial loss of wages because they need time off work to care for a seriously ill family member or to bond with a new child. Benefit amounts are approximately 60-70 percent of wages (depending on income) and range from \$50-\$1,300 a week. If you are eligible,

the EDD processes and issues payments within a few weeks of receiving a claim.

Telehealth and virtual appointments are acceptable for a physical examination, but medical certifications are still required.

School Closures

If your child's school is closed, and you have to miss work to be there for them, you may be eligible for Unemployment Insurance benefits. Eligibility considerations include if you have no other care options and if you are unable to continue working your normal hours remotely. [File an Unemployment Insurance claim](#) and our EDD representatives will decide if you are eligible.

Reduced Work Hours

If your employer has reduced your hours or shut down operations due to COVID-19, you can [file an Unemployment Insurance \(UI\) claim](#). UI provides partial wage replacement benefit payments to workers who lose their job or have their hours reduced, through no fault of their own. If you are temporarily unemployed due to COVID-19 and expected to return to work with your employer within a few weeks, you are not required to actively seek work each week. However, you must remain able and available and ready to work during your unemployment for each week of benefits you claim and meet all other eligibility criteria. If you're eligible, benefits can range from \$40-\$450 per week.

The [Governor's Executive Order](#) waives the one-week unpaid waiting period, so you can collect UI benefits for the first week you are out of work. If you are eligible, the EDD processes and issues payments within a few weeks of receiving a claim.

Self-Employed

If you are self-employed, you may have benefits available from EDD employment insurance programs that you or your employer may have paid into over the past 5 to 18 months. You may have contributions from a prior job, or you could have been misclassified as an independent contractor instead of an employee. Apply for the benefit program that best fits your situation and include details about your employment to help us process your claim.

Visit [Coronavirus 2019 FAQs](#) and [Self-Employed/Independent Contractor](#) to learn more.

As always, we hope this email finds you and your family healthy and safe. We are making every effort to keep our members informed and up-to-date on the ever-changing processes revolving around the COVID-19 pandemic and we are here to answer any questions you may have.

In solidarity,

Greg Bonato
Business Manager-
Financial Secretary

