Unemployment Insurance - COVID-19 Resources

Members-Only COVID-19 Resources

NASWA Members (state workforce agency personnel) have additional resources available for internal use only. This requires your NASWA Member login to access.

Don’t have a Member Login? Create one now.

State Information

This page was last updated on Friday February 5, 2021 at 1:54pm

As a result of the spread of COVID-19, state agencies handling unemployment insurance are faced with a new set of extraordinary challenges including implementation of new federal programs and an unprecedented volume of claims.

This web page highlights information provided by states on how they are dealing with unemployment insurance issues related to the impact of COVID-19 on their daily operations. The
tabs above link to other useful resources from the public and private sectors.

The three links below (Center for Disease Control and Prevention-CDC, Johns Hopkins-JH and World Health Organization-WHO) contain the most accurate and up-to-date information about the virus.

- CDC is responding to the novel coronavirus outbreak
- Johns Hopkins: COVID-19 Global Map
- World Health Organization coronavirus outbreak

---

**State Information**

**Alabama**

- Employer Charges for COVID-19 Related Claims Waived: Employers Urged to File Claims on Behalf of Employees
- Coronavirus and Unemployment Insurance FAQs
- Release detailing changes to UC for coronavirus (see FAQs above)
- DOL COVID-19 Resource Page
- Alabama Career Center Locations will Close to Public - Going to Virtual Services

**Alaska**

- COVID-19 Scenarios and Benefits and COVID-19 Programs
- Alaska Job Center Events Postponed
- Labor commissioner anticipates increase in UI - includes filing information

**Arkansas**

- Common Questions and Answers for Employers Regarding the Unemployment Insurance Program and the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Common Questions and Answers for Workers Regarding the Unemployment Insurance Program and the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Notice to Individuals Inquiring About the Availability of Unemployment Insurance Benefits As A Result of the COVID19 Pandemic

**Arizona**

- DES Announces Expansion of Shared Work Program to Support Employers, Employees
- Resources for Job Seekers and Employers
- UI Information Fact Sheet
- COVID-19 and Unemployment Insurance Benefits Arizona Department of Economic Security Questions and Answers
COVID-19 Information - links to UI and includes form to submit with COVID-19 questions

California
- EDD Coronavirus resources
- Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) – FAQs on laws enforced by the California Labor Commissioner’s Office
- Information for Employers and Worker Benefits

Colorado
- COVID-19 Information
- UI Emergency Rules
- UI System Improvements (adding call center staff, new “last name” online filing and updated web site content)
- Coronavirus Efforts Under State Of Emergency
- Governor declares state of emergency
- Emergency Rules on Paid Sick Leave for COVID-19
- Colorado Executive Order: One-Time Direct Stimulus Payments to Qualifying Individuals Experiencing Economic Hardships Caused by COVID-19

Connecticut
- In-Person Visits at American Job Centers are Suspended - move to virtual assistance
- Frequently asked questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) related to unemployment insurance
- Connecticut's Coronavirus Information Website

Delaware
- Department of Labor COVID-19 Response Center
- The Delaware Department of Labor Expands Unemployment Benefits to Workers Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic
- The Delaware Department of Labor Offices will remain open, but we are suspending public access to all of our office buildings until further notice.
- Unemployment Benefits Expanded to Workers Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic - includes information about office closures
- Division of Unemployment Insurance Frequently Regarding the Potential Impact of the Coronavirus

District of Columbia
- Bowser Administration Announces UI Benefit Flexibilities with the Passage of COVID-19 Response Emergency Amendment Act of 2020
- DC Expands Unemployment Insurance Protections to Address COVID-19
• Update on DOES Operating Status during COVID-19 emergency
• Website for COVID-19
• District of Columbia Stimulus Payment

Florida
• Reemployment Assistance COVID-19 FAQ
• Emergency Bridge Loan Program for Small Businesses Impacted by COVID-19
• Gov issues executive order declaring public health emergency
• state employee travel restrictions

Georgia
• Filing for Unemployment During the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis
• GDOL Public Service Announcement includes UI and job information
• GDOL Career Centers processing claims but temporarily closed to the public
• NEW Information for filing for unemployment, partial claims, and reemployment services

Guam
• Department of Labor Advisory

Hawaii
• COVID-19: Labor Benefits Fact Sheet
• State announces scheduling of appointments for unemployment claims
• State strongly suggests filing for unemployment benefits online

Idaho
• Release: Payments begin for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation
• Idaho Get Help Resources
• Pandemic Unemployment Assistance
• Employer FAQs about Unemployment Insurance and COVID-19
• Department of Labor and COVID-19
• Claimant FAQs about Unemployment Insurance and COVID-19

Illinois
•IDES offices closed to the public until further notice
• COVID-19 and Unemployment Benefits
• Emergency Unemployment Insurance Rules

Indiana
• Indiana Unemployment Information including links
• DWD to host statewide unemployment insurance webinars for Hoosiers impacted by COVID
• COVID-19 Resource Guide for Hoosiers Looking for Assistance
• Governor announces more steps to slow spread of COVID-19; includes information on DWD offices
- Governor's Order - Helping Hoosiers During COVID-19
- UPDATED: DWD COVID-19 Information
- Indiana UI FAQ for COVID-19

**Iowa**

- Press Release on Lost Wages Assistance Program Payments
- IWD announces Guidance on Unemployment Benefits: Iowans Who Refuse to Return to Work Without Good Reason When Recalled Will Lose Eligibility to Unemployment Benefits
- Gov. Reynolds announces unemployment insurance tax extension to assist small businesses
- UI Tax Extension to Small Businesses
- Updates and Resources about COVID-19
- Governor Reynolds announces assistance for employees and employers affected by COVID-19 related layoffs

**Kansas**

- COVID-19 Response - Workforce Services from Kansas Department of Commerce
- COVID-19 Response Resources from the Kansas Department of Labor
- UI and COVID-19 FAQ

**Kentucky**

- COVID19 - Unemployment Insurance Frequently Asked Questions
- Executive Branch employees protocols including telecommuting guidance
- Governor's memo cancelling in person government services to the public

**Louisiana**

- LWC home page with links to COVID-19 Information
- 29-JBE-2020 Governors Proclamation - Additional Measures for COVID-19
- Unemployment Insurance information for Workers and Employers
- LWC COVID-19 Information by Division

**Maine**

- Dept. of Labor Announces Shift to Online CareerCenter Services
- Flexibility in UI System
- Unemployment Insurance FAQs Regarding COVID-19
- Resources for Workers and Businesses on COVID-19
- Information about COVID-19 - includes UI info

**Maryland**

- ENACTED: State of Emergency and Catastrophic Health Emergency - Prohibits an employer from terminating an employee solely on the basis that the employee has been required to be isolated or quarantined
• Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning - includes information about local office services/availability
• State employee travel out of state suspended
• Unemployment Insurance information for claimants, including COVID-19 FAQ
• COVID-19 FAQ for UI

Massachusetts
• ENACTED: An Act authorizing waiver of the one week waiting period for unemployment benefits
• Status of AJCs
• Information on Unemployment and Coronavirus (COVID-19)
• Guidance & directives for businesses and employers - includes information about unemployment
• Learn about Massachusetts COVID-19 Workforce Measures

Michigan
• Criminals attempting to illegally obtain benefits using stolen and falsified data
• State website for Coronavirus information - info for residents/communities, health care professionals, childcare and school administrators, employers and workers
• Governor Whitmer Expands Unemployment Benefits for Michigan Workers
• Executive Order Temporary Expansions of Unemployment Eligibility and Cost-sharing

Minnesota
• COVID-19 Information for Employers, Business
• Worker protections related to COVID-19
• COVID-19 and Unemployment Benefits
• COVID-19 Information for Minnesotans (includes UI information)

Mississippi
• Resources for Workers and Businesses on COVID-19
• Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response including limiting access to job center facilities

Missouri
• All Missouri Job Centers to suspend in-person services due to recommendations regarding COVID-19
• COVID-19 FAQs for Businesses & Workers
• Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources

Montana
• Law rule that would help with eligibility in COVID-19 situations
• Governor Bullock Announces Emergency Rules to Streamline Unemployment Benefits for Workers Impacted by COVID-19
• COVID-19 FAQ
• Montana Interim Pandemic Assistance Program

Nebraska
• Labor Commissioner Urges Nebraskans to File for Unemployment Benefits Online During COVID-19 Pandemic
• COVID-19 Resources and Information
• Executive Order to Loosen Unemployment Insurance Eligibility Requirements

Nevada
• Information for Claimants and Employers
• Governor Sisolak Waives Work Search Requirement and Wait Period for Unemployment Insurance Benefits
• March 5 - Governor release: Emergency Regulation to Protect Nevada Residents from Increased Medical and Prescription Costs related to COVID-19

New Hampshire
• Emergency Order #5 Access to State Unemployment Benefits for Individuals Impacted by COVID-19
• COVID-19 mandatory notice - new policy re: visiting NH offices

New Jersey
• COVID-19/Novel Coronavirus Information for New Jersey Businesses
• All One-Stop Career Center Offices Closed through March 30
• In-Person Unemployment Services at One-Stops Suspended Due to COVID-19. Online benefit filing.
• Dept of Labor Benefits and the Coronavirus: What you should know
• COVID-19 Scenarios & Benefits Available (English)
• COVID-19 Scenarios & Benefits Available (Spanish)

New Mexico
• State extends eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits to workers affected by COVID-19
• Information for workers affected by COVID-19
• New Mexico Worker Pandemic Benefit Payment

New York
• What you need to know about the CARES Act
• State Website with UI info
• Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) information

North Carolina
• COVID-19 and Unemployment Insurance
• Executive Order 118: Limiting Operations of Restaurants and Bars and Broadening Unemployment Insurance Benefits in Response to COVID-19
• NC COVID-19 Information
- North Carolina Increased Benefit Amount

North Dakota
- Executive Order 2020-08
- Unemployment Insurance and COVID-19 FAQ

Ohio
- Executive Order 2020-03D Lifting Certain Unemployment Compensation Benefit Restrictions During an Emergency
- Common Number Provided for Reporting Mass Layoffs due to COVID-19 (Unemployment Benefits)
- Webpage on coronavirus and UI benefits
- Ohio Nonprofit Reimbursing Relief Grants

Oklahoma
- COVID-19 Unemployment Insurance FAQs & Important Messages
- OK Works/America’s Job Centers providing virtual services and filing Unemployment Insurance claims during COVID-19
- Employer FAQs about Unemployment Insurance and COVID-19
- COVID-19 Message

Oregon
- Governor issues executive order to stay home
- WorkSource Oregon centers are making social distancing health recommendation adjustments to provide services to individuals and businesses during the COVID-19 crisis while protecting customers, employees and the public.
- Sick days 101: What the law says for workers and employers
- COVID-19 Coronavirus Supplemental Resource Guide for Employees
- Scenarios & Benefits Available
- Related Business Layoffs, Closures, and Unemployment Insurance Benefits

Pennsylvania
- Information for workers and employers
- Information for Pennsylvania employees impacted by COVID-19

Puerto Rico
- COVID-19 UI information (in Spanish)

Rhode Island
- Department of Labor and Training home page including links to COVID-19 resources
- Workplace Fact Sheet for COVID-19
- Governor declares state of emergency (including information about unemployment insurance)
- Rhode Island Pause Unemployment Boost
South Carolina
- Department of Employment and Workforce homepage including UI information.
- Access to statewide centers
- Employment workforce COVID-19 Resource Hub
- Employment questions related to COVID19

South Dakota
- CARES Act Benefits and Implementation
- Warning Against Unemployment Scams
- Unemployment Insurance Eligibility Requirements Loosened
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act: What does it mean for employers?
- Employers: Use SIDES for fast, secure online unemployment filing
- Labor Department Accepting Unemployment Claims from Workers Affected by COVID-19
- Governor release on statewide effort to prepare for COVID-19
- COVID-19 Resources
- COVID-19 Reemployment Assistance Eligibility Determinations
- Labor Department Accepting Unemployment Claims from School Employees Affected by COVID-19 Closures
- Reemployment Assistance Customer Service Center Remains Open

Tennessee
- Governor’s press release for Coronavirus Task Force 3/4/20
- Information about TN UI benefits and Coronavirus
- COVID-19 Resources for Employers, Employees and FAQs
- Tennessee Begins Paying FPUC Unemployment Benefits

Texas
- Helping Texans Access UI System: Implementing Staggered Access Based on Area Code
- Chat Bot Launched for UI Claims
- Employers: Enrolling in Shared Work Program Provides an Alternative to Layoffs During COVID-19
- TVC Coronavirus Customer Service Policy (JVSG grant recipient in Texas)
- COVID-19 Resources Employers
- COVID-19 Resources Job Seekers

U.S. Virgin Islands
- US Virgin Islands Department of Labor Homepage with UI and COVID-19 Information
- New Policies to Serve and Safeguard During the COVID-19 State of Emergency

Utah
- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program available to Utahns
CARES FAQ

Daily Rapid Response Virtual Workshops Launched

COVID-19

Vermont

- CAREER RESOURCE CENTERS CLOSED TO PUBLIC, STILL OFFERING VIRTUAL SERVICES
- PRESS RELEASE: DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES ELECTRONIC OPTION, STAFF INCREASES FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE - includes information about local offices
- Expanding Unemployment Insurance Benefits in Response to COVID-19
- COVID-19 FAQ
- Vermont Unemployment Insurance Homepage
- Vermont Short Term Supplemental Benefit

Virginia

- COVID-19 Resources
- Office closings due to Coronavirus
- Attention Workers Whose Job Has Been Affected by the Coronavirus

Washington

- Employment Security Department Home page with links to resources
- Message from Commissioner LeVine on Demand for Agency’s Services
- WorkSource career centers temporarily converting to all-virtual services
- Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs)
- Inslee announces support for workers and businesses impacted by COVID-19
- ESD COVID-19 Response: including link to emergency rules for unemployment insurance
- Employment Security Department COVID-19 Information
- Scenarios and benefits chart
- Resource list for businesses & workers impacted by COVID-19
- PASSED: WA HB 2965 - Concerning the State’s Response to the Novel Coronavirus
- PASSED: WA HB 2739 - AN ACT Relating to Adjusting Certain Requirements of the Shared Leave Program and Declaring an Emergency

West Virginia

- Workforce West Virginia reminds public of actions that can affect eligibility for unemployment benefits
- COVID 19 Resource Information
- Governor Jim Justice Issues Executive Order (waives waiting week, able, available and work search requirements and suspends in-person contact for UI
Wisconsin

- Unemployment COVID-19 Public Information
- COVID-19 Which Unemployment Program is for You?
- DWD Launches New Links in Spanish and Hmong Related DWD COVID-19 Information
- Employment & Training COVID-19 Public Information - job center status
- Emergency Order to the Department of Workforce Development Regarding Unemployment Insurance
- How to File for Benefits Online: Employees & Employers
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Offices Temporarily Close and Providing Virtual Services
- Department of Workforce Development Information for the Public including Unemployment and Employment and Training
- Department of Workforce Development Information for Partners including employers regarding unemployment insurance

Wyoming

- Coronavirus 2019

**Travel Restrictions**

Multiple states have implemented outbound and/or inbound travel restrictions for state staff and visitors to state agencies. These states include:

- Alaska
- Arkansas
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Guam
- Hawaii
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Minnesota
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- Ohio

- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin

Does your state have more information to post here? Contact COVID@naswa.org