

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FOR WORKERS

Overview

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provides supplemental unemployment insurance (UI) funding to expand individuals' eligibility, increase benefit amounts, and lengthen the duration of benefit availability.

Eligibility

In addition to standard UI eligibility, you may qualify for UI benefits via the CARES Act if:

- You are self-employed, including an independent contractor, freelancer, or a gig-economy worker;
- You are a part-time worker;
- Your work hours have been cut or reduced to zero, but you are still employed; or
- You have a limited work history that would typically disqualify you from UI.

Benefits

- Your base weekly benefit amount is calculated by dividing the wages in the highest quarter of your base period by 21, up to a maximum of \$648 per week.
- If you are partially unemployed, your weekly benefit amount is calculated the same as the above by using the amount of reduced income you are currently receiving.
- In addition to this base amount, the CARES Act provides an additional \$600 per week for beneficiaries through July 31, 2020.
 - This amount may come together with your UI benefits, or as a separate payment.
- Please ask the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) if you have questions regarding your weekly benefit amount.

Duration of Benefits

- Between standard UI and the CARES Act, UI benefits are available for a total of 39 weeks.
- If you are newly eligible for UI due to the CARES Act, you may still be able to qualify for the back payment of UI benefits starting on, or after, January 27, 2020, if your job loss was due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

How can I file a claim?

- To apply for UI, please visit labor.hawaii.gov/ui.
- You can also call your local UI office. Phone numbers may be found at labor.hawaii.gov/ui/contact.

More Information

For more information, please visit <https://labor.hawaii.gov/ui/>.

The "Unemployment Insurance Provisions" are established by Title II, Subtitle A of the CARES Act.