

You may be eligible for unemployment compensation.

Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)

FPUC provides an additional \$600 per week for individuals receiving regular unemployment benefits, PUA, PEUC, or extended benefits if they are triggered under Illinois law, beginning March 29, 2020 and concluding the week ending July 25. FPUC has been fully implemented and disbursement has begun.

Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)

PEUC provides up to 13 additional weeks of federally funded unemployment benefits for individuals who have exhausted regular unemployment benefits.

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)

PUA provides up to 39 weeks of federally funded unemployment benefits to individuals not typically eligible for unemployment benefits, including independent contractors and sole-proprietors that have become unemployed as a direct result of COVID-19.

The following applies to most states:

Every individual who is unemployed or under employed should fill a claim for unemployment benefits, even if they believe they are not covered by the unemployment system. There are two reasons someone currently unemployed through no fault of their own should still file for regular unemployment benefits with their state unemployment system, even if they have been told that they are not covered by the states regular unemployment insurance program—because they're an independent contractor, part of the gig economy, or for some other reason. First, it's possible that whoever told them they were not covered was wrong. Although eligibility for benefits cannot be guaranteed, nothing prohibits people for filing a claim for regular benefits, as long as they truthfully complete the application. Second, the PUA program has been established for individuals who are unemployed for reason attributable to COVID-19 and not covered by the states' regular unemployment insurance program. To establish eligibility under the new program, the claimant will have to demonstrate he/she is not eligible under the regular program. **Applying for and being denied benefits under the regular program can help establish eligibility under the new temporary program.**