



## Unemployment Insurance

The *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* includes a significant expansion of Unemployment Insurance to help workers during the coronavirus pandemic. The law:

- Expands unemployment benefits to individuals who are not currently covered, including:
  - Self-employed workers, including gig economy workers
  - Independent Contractors
  - Part-time workers
  - Individuals with irregular work histories
  - Individuals who are unable to work because of the coronavirus pandemic
- Provides an additional \$600 benefit per worker, per week added to unemployment compensation through July 31, 2020
- Includes a 13-week extension of Unemployment Insurance benefits for individuals who have exhausted the number of weeks available to them by their state
- Reduces the amount that non-profits are required to reimburse states for unemployment benefits paid to their workers by 50 percent through December 31, 2020
- Provides federal funding to incentivize states to eliminate the waiting week between applying for unemployment compensation and receiving it
- Provides federal funding for work-share programs, which allow states and employers to enter into agreements to prevent layoffs by reducing employee hours while allowing the workers with reduced hours to qualify for partial unemployment compensation benefits

### Unemployment Insurance Eligibility & Filing for Unemployment

You can file for Unemployment Insurance through the unemployment office in the state where you worked, and the office will be able to determine your individual eligibility.

Individuals who worked in Illinois can contact the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) by calling 800-244-5631 or filing for benefits here:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/ides/individuals/UnemploymentInsurance/Pages/default.aspx>.

Additionally, if you worked in Illinois, you can find answers to Frequently Asked Questions about coronavirus and unemployment benefits here:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/ides/Pages/COVID-19-and-Unemployment-Benefits.aspx>.