



UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Unemployment Compensation/Insurance

Per the CARES Act
(April 6, 2020)

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- ✓ **IMPORTANT:** Between now and July 31, 2020, an **additional \$600 per week will be added** to every unemployment compensation check. In the State of Florida unemployed workers can receive up to \$275/wk. With the enhanced unemployment benefit, laid off workers can receive up to \$875/wk, and no one will receive less than \$600 per week.
 - ✓ The benefit will be paid out for each week for four months (from now until July 31, 2020.)
 - ✓ The benefit assists workers who have been laid off or furloughed by their employer, and The CARES Act expands benefits to **those that are not traditionally covered**, including the self-employed, gig-workers, independent contractors, part-time workers, and workers with irregular work history. This expanded eligibility exists until December 31, 2020.
 - ✓ This “enhanced unemployment benefit” is federally funded but will be distributed through the State’s existing unemployment insurance system. In Florida, the State’s Department of Economic Opportunity administers the unemployment insurance program. So, be sure to file for unemployment assistance with the State as soon as possible.
 - ✓ The State of Florida’s unemployment insurance program is administered by the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), and is called the “Reemployment Program.”
 - ✓ To file an unemployment claim online: [click here](#). The online system is widely reported to be poorly functioning at this time.
 - ✓ As an alternative, DEO is also currently accepting a hard-copy, paper application, that can be filled out and mailed in. To download the form [click here](#). (The applications are available in English, Spanish and Creole.) Fill it out and mail to:

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
P.O. Box 5350
Tallahassee, Florida
32314-5350

- ✓ To file a claim by telephone: 1-800-204-2418.
- ✓ Important information about new program expansions:
 - **The CARES ACT provides an additional \$600 per week on top of the State’s regular UI payment BUT the State has NOT YET announced how it will distribute these funds to UI recipients.**
 - **The CARES ACT explicitly expands State UI to those not traditionally eligible – the self-employed (free-lancers, 1099s, independent contractors, “gig” workers) and part-time workers. BUT the State of Florida has NOT YET accepted/incorporated this eligibility expansion into its program.**
 - **This is an evolving situation and we will report new developments as they occur.**