
The COVID19 Unemployment Update

President Trump declared COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) a National Emergency on March 13, 2020. The declaration provides new guidance and outlines flexibilities that states will have in administering their unemployment insurance programs. The following are Illinois Department of Employment Security's latest unemployment updates.

THIS JUST IN:**On the IDES website:**

"3/17/20 - The health and safety of our customers and staff are of highest importance. In order to protect everyone through social distancing, IDES offices are closed to the public until further notice.

You may access IDES services using the following methods: To file an Unemployment Insurance claim, [click here](#).

If you have questions about Unemployment Insurance, please call our Customer Service Center at 800-244-5631 or 866-488-4016 TTY.

To certify for Unemployment Insurance benefits, [click here](#) or call Tele-Serve at 312-338-4337 Monday - Friday 5:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. To post your resume, search job postings, or find a job, [visit www.illinoisjoblink.com](http://www.illinoisjoblink.com)"

As of March 11th, 2020, Illinois has filed emergency rules to extend unemployment benefits to those affected by COVID-19. Benefits will now extend to:

- Workers who were temporarily laid off due a closure of the workplace could qualify for benefits as long as he or she were able and available and actively seeking work.

Unemployment Benefits will not be made available to those unable to work due to a medical or government quarantine, or those caring for a loved one diagnosed with COVID-19.

Additional Changes due to COVID-19:

Claimants will not have to register with employment service. They would be considered to be actively seeking work as long as the individual was prepared to return to his or her job as soon as the employer reopens.

To see more information, go here: <https://www2.illinois.gov/ides/Pages/COVID-19-and-Unemployment-Benefits.aspx>

Information contained in the bulletin was gathered both independently, as well as utilizing resources obtained from NASWA and the Department of Labor. CCC is in contact with both national and state representatives regarding this issue and will keep you updated as more information becomes available