
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 the Indiana Department of Workforce Development's latest unemployment updates.

Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb signed an Executive Order updating unemployment in reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The state will interpret Indiana's unemployment laws to the broadest extent possible to cover Hoosiers who are out of work because of COVID-19.
- Benefits will be paid to individuals who file their initial unemployment claims late.
- The Department of Workforce Development will allow individuals to continue to accrue unemployment eligibility if they take work leave because of COVID-19.
- DWD will seek federal authorization to provide unemployment benefits for those who are not otherwise eligible for unemployment, such as individuals who have recently started a job.
- For employers, DWD will not assess certain experience rate penalties due to employees who receive unemployment benefits because of COVID-19.

Claimants MAY (if monetary requirements are met) be allowed if:

- Employer temporarily shuts down or lays me off because of COVID-19
- Employee is quarantine based on a directive from a medical professional or employer due to COVID-19
- Employee hours are reduced due to COVID-19 (eligible for partial benefits)

Claimants will be denied if:

- Employee decides to remain at home because of COVID-19 with no directive from a medical professional or employer
- Employee not working due to COVID-19 but receiving sick pay or other leave pay from employer

For access to the Departments FAQs go here: https://www.in.gov/dwd/files/Indiana_Unemployment_FAQ.pdf

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.