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## The COVID19 Unemployment Update

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President Trump declared COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) a National Emergency on March 13, 2020. The following are the Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency's latest unemployment updates.

The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) has closed its lobbies to visits from the public, except for customers with appointments. These changes will remain effective as long as necessary for the health and safety of the public.

Governor Whitmer signed an agreement, under the federal CARES Act, between Michigan and the U.S.

Department of Labor to implement Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Compensation programs that:

- Grants benefits to workers, which include self-employed, 1099-independent contractors, gig and low-wage workers who can no longer work because of the pandemic, who do not already qualify for state unemployment benefits. If a worker's application has previously been denied by the UIA in the past three weeks there is no need for them to reapply at this time. They will be notified by the agency with any additional action that may need to be taken.
- Increases weekly benefits for all unemployed workers by \$600 a week for up to four months. This applies to workers already in the unemployment system and eligible employees about to apply.
- Extends benefit payments from 26 to 39 weeks.
- The day or time of day in which a claim is filed will not impact whether a worker receives benefits or their benefit amount. Additionally, claims will be back-dated to reflect the date in which a claimant was laid-off or let go from their job due to COVID-19. The eligibility window to apply has also been increased from 14 to 28 days from the date of their work stoppage.

New Filing Schedule:

- Online Filing Schedule - Michigan.gov/UIA. Workers are encouraged to go online during off-peak times between 8PM-8AM
- Last names beginning with letters A-L are asked to file claims on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays.
- Last names beginning with letters M-Z are asked to file claims on Sundays, Tuesdays, or Thursdays.
- Saturdays will be available for anyone to accommodate those who could not file during their allotted window.

Call Center Filing Schedule - 866-500-0017:

- Last names beginning with letters A-L are asked to call on Mondays and Wednesdays between 8:00am – 5:00pm.
- Last names beginning with letters M-Z are asked to call on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8:00am – 5:00pm.
- Fridays (8:00am – 5:00pm) will be available for anyone to accommodate those who could not file during their allotted window.

The Michigan UI Filing Guide can be found here: [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/uia/160\\_-\\_Claiming\\_UI\\_Benefit\\_In\\_Michigan\\_-\\_Jan2014\\_444213\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/uia/160_-_Claiming_UI_Benefit_In_Michigan_-_Jan2014_444213_7.pdf)

**CCC is in contact with both national and state representatives regarding this issue and will keep you updated as more information becomes available.**