
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 New Hampshire Employment Security Department's latest unemployment updates.

New Hampshire has released information regarding their response to the effects of COVID-19. All NHWorks offices are closed to the public due to COVID-19. All claims and questions should be directed to [NHES.NH.GOV](https://www.nhes.nh.gov) or call the Unemployment Assistance Hotline at 603-271-7700.

Emergency Order No. 5 provides rules related to unemployment compensation. Including:

- The state will waive the 1-week waiting period for Unemployment claims to expedite payment of benefits
- Unemployment benefits paid in association with COVID-19 will be charged against the unemployment trust fund and will not be assigned against the account of the most recent employer

Claimants MAY be eligible (dependent if they meet monetary eligibility) if:

- If an individual has a current diagnosis of COVID-19
- If an individual is quarantined (including self-imposed quarantine), at the instruction of a medical professional, employer, or government official, as a result of COVID-19
- If an individual is caring for a family member or dependent who has been diagnosed or is under quarantine related to COVID-19
- If an individual is caring for a family member or dependent who is unable to care for themselves due to COVID-19 school closings, child care, or other care programs

Determined on a Case by Case basis:

- If an employee is in mandatory quarantine because of suspicion of having the Coronavirus
- If an employee contracts COVID-19 and must quit
- If an employee's dependent, family member or child has school cancellations and they must stay home to provide care and must quit

For more information about changes to the New Hampshire Unemployment system, go here:

<https://www.governor.nh.gov/news-media/emergency-orders/documents/emergency-order-5.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.