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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 declaration provides new guidance and outlines flexibilities that states will have in administering their unemployment insurance programs. The following are New Jersey, Department of Unemployment Insurance's latest unemployment updates.

New Jersey has released directions for Workers effected by COVID-19. At this time, there has been no notice of executive order or changes in legislation.

- In efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, New Jersey announced that all New Jersey One-Stop Career Center offices will be closed to the public effective immediately. All customers with existing appointments will be contacted by NJDOL staff at a future date to be rescheduled.
- It has been noted that the state intends to use comprehensive Earned Sick Leave, Temporary Disability and Family Leave Insurance laws, which cover all employees (full-time, part-time, temporary and seasonal) when handling workers medically quarantined or diagnosed with COVID-19. New Jersey's Earned Sick Leave Law even covers public health emergencies – employees can use Earned Sick leave if their workplace or child's school or daycare is closed due to an epidemic, or if a public health authority determines the need for a quarantine.
- In the event that the workplace has been closed (this includes voluntary closures and mandated closures by a state official), a worker can collect unemployment benefits, if they are considered eligible.
- If an employer has had to cut hours due to a lack of production resulting from COVID-19, a worker can collect partial benefits for working hours lost.
- To see more information regarding worker's benefits, go here for New Jersey's Scenarios and Benefits Available mark up: <https://www.nj.gov/labor/assets/PDFs/COVID-19%20SCENARIOS.pdf>
- To see more information from the State of New Jersey, go to: <https://www.nj.gov/labor/worker-protections/earnedsick/covid.shtml>

**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.**