
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 York Department of Labor's latest unemployment updates.

New York has issued notice of the following:

Unemployment Claims:

- The 7-day waiting period for Unemployment Insurance benefits is waived for people who are out of work due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) closures or quarantines.
- Claimants are directed to file based on the first letter of your last name.
- A - F Monday.
- G - N Tuesday
- O - Z Wednesday.
- Those that missed their filing day Thursday or Friday.
- Filing later in the week will not delay payments or affect the date of the claim; all claims are effective on the Monday of the week in which they are filed.

Unemployment Hearings

- All currently scheduled unemployment hearings in New York are canceled and their offices will be closed as they are "non-essential staff".
- Offices are expected to open on 3/31 and the New York Department of Labor will be sending out decisions that state the case was administratively closed. Employers will not have to request reopening, the department will reschedule them.
- The NY DOL has not determined hearings will be rescheduled as telephone upon reopening, but will grant employer requests for telephonic hearings due to COVID-19.
- Reminder for CCC clients: New York sends a copy of all decisions and hearings directly to your job sites. No action is necessary on your part.

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.