
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 Vermont Department of Labor's latest unemployment updates.

Vermont has released information regarding their response to the effects of COVID-19. The state has taken the following steps:

- Waiving work search requirements for those who are impacted by a temporary closure of a business and have been provided with a return to work date within the current ten-week period.
- Waiving the work search requirement for the time the individual is in quarantine
- Expediting payments to workers by issuing payments prior to employer confirmation and shortening the Electronic Fund Transfer validation process whenever possible

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

- An employer must permanently or temporarily shut down operations and no work is available
- An employer needs to temporarily reduce employees' hours due to a slow-down in business as a result of COVID-19
- A worker has been asked by a medical professional to quarantine as a result of COVID-19, but is not showing symptoms and not receiving paid sick leave
- Employees become seriously ill and am forced to quit my job as a result of COVID-19

Claimants are LIKELY not eligible if:

- An employee needs to voluntarily quit their job to care for a family member as a result of COVID-19

For more information on Vermont's Response to COVID-19, go here: <https://labor.vermont.gov/covid19>

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.