

This section addresses the changes that will go into effect regarding Unemployment Insurance Compensation under the new bill. Individual States must sign agreement with the Federal Government for these changes and additional compensation amounts to take effect. Updates to come as States enter agreements.

## The CARES Act – Changes to Unemployment Insurance (pending individual State Agreements)

### Sec. 2102 – “Relief for Workers Affected by Coronavirus Act”

- Who Qualifies? - Covered Individuals
  - Have exhausted regular unemployment benefits, and are otherwise not eligible for regular compensation or pandemic emergency compensation.
  - Self-certify
    - Able/willing to work but still unemployed (or partially unemployed) or unable/unavailable to work because-
      - Diagnosed or symptomatic of COVID-19
      - Household has a confirmed case
      - Providing care for a household individual with a confirmed case
      - Child/other dependents requiring care cannot attend school/other care facilities due to COVID-19
      - Doctor ordered self-quarantine/can't reach work because of quarantine
      - You were scheduled to start working but couldn't because of COVID-19
      - Have to quit because of COVID-19
      - Job Closed because of COVID-19
    - Self-employed, seeking part-time employment, insufficient work history or otherwise unqualified for state/federal unemployment – but is otherwise out of work for one of the reasons above.
  - **DOES NOT INCLUDE**
    - Individuals able to and actively working remotely (telework)
    - Individuals receiving paid sick leave or other paid leave benefits regardless of conditions above.
- Assistance for Unemployment as a result of COVID-19
  - Applies to weeks of unemployment, partial unemployment/inability to work related to COVID-19 beginning 1/27/2020 ending on/before 12/31/2020 (must continue to be related to COVID-19)
  - **Limited to 39 weeks total** unless benefit extended.
  - To be paid weekly

Sec. 2104 – “Emergency Increase in Unemployment Compensation Benefits”

- States must enter into an agreement individually, and can terminate such an agreement
- If State enters into such an agreement - Unemployment compensation is an additional **\$600** to what an individual would otherwise be eligible for under state law; referred to as “Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation”
- Payments from state agencies can either be *in addition to* normal unemployment benefit amounts paid; or *as a second payment* but on the same **WEEKLY** basis. Up to each state.
- Can be prosecuted for fraud if not entitled to benefits received due to material misrepresentation of fact. May be required to repay amounts received to State Agency. Exceptions apply (e.g. not individuals’ fault; if such repayment would be unconscionable).

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