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# UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS: UPDATED FAQs

*Guidance Subject to Change  
Current, as of March 31, 2020*

On March 27, 2020, the President of the United States signed a law that provides additional Unemployment Insurance ("UI") assistance to workers impacted by COVID-19. This new law provides:

- **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance** – Extended eligibility for individuals who have traditionally been ineligible for UI benefits (e.g., self-employed workers, independent contractors);
- **Pandemic Unemployment Compensation** – An additional \$600 per week, on top of regular benefits, to all UI recipients; and,
- **Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation** – An additional 13 weeks of UI benefits, beyond the regular 26 weeks already provided, for a total of 39 weeks of coverage.



# RELIEF FOR WORKERS AFFECTED BY CORONAVIRUS ACT

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AND DO ABOUT THE CARES ACT



*The federal CARES Act was signed into law March 27, 2020. The Act provides enhanced Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) for New Yorkers. Here's what you need to know.*

## IF YOU ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR UI BENEFITS:

### WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

- **Do nothing except continue to certify weekly.**  
Your benefits will automatically be updated.  
**Please do not call**, it will only make it difficult for others to reach an agent.

### WHAT YOU MAY QUALIFY TO RECEIVE

- 39 weeks of UI benefits.
- An additional \$600/week until 7/31/2020.  
(Beginning 4/5/2020)

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## IF YOU ARE NOT TRADITIONALLY ELIGIBLE FOR UI BENEFITS:

### WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

- Check your eligibility for PUA [labor.ny.gov/ui/pdfs/pandemic-unemployment-assistance.pdf](https://labor.ny.gov/ui/pdfs/pandemic-unemployment-assistance.pdf)
- If you believe you are eligible, apply online at [labor.ny.gov/signin](https://labor.ny.gov/signin).
- You may also call 1-888-209-8124 if you do not have access to a computer.

### WHAT YOU MAY QUALIFY TO RECEIVE

- 39 weeks of PUA benefits.
- An additional \$600/week until 7/31/2020.  
(Payments begin 4/5/2020)

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## IF YOU ARE FILING A NEW UI CLAIM:

### WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

- Apply online at **labor.ny.gov/signin**.
- You may also call **1-888-209-8124** if you do not have access to a computer.

### WHAT YOU MAY QUALIFY TO RECEIVE

- 39 weeks of UI benefits.
- An additional \$600/week until 7/31/2020.  
(Payments begin 4/5/2020)



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## IF YOU'VE EXHAUSTED 26 WEEKS OF BENEFITS AFTER 7/1/2019:

### WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

- Apply online at **[labor.ny.gov/signin](https://labor.ny.gov/signin)**.
- You may also call 1-888-209-8124 if you do not have access to a computer.

### WHAT YOU MAY QUALIFY TO RECEIVE

- 13 weeks of benefits.
- An additional \$600/week until 7/31/2020.  
(Payments begin 4/5/2020)