



State Senator SEAN J. O'BRIEN

Minority Whip

32nd District

1. **Has the Waiting Period to receive unemployment benefits been waived?**
 - a. **YES:** If you have been unemployed due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, your waiting period has been waived and your claim will be processed as soon as possible. **Be sure to use the Mass Layoff code 2000180** which will expedite the claim processing.

2. **How long will unemployment benefits be paid out through the state?**
 - a. **As of 5/11 there is no deadline for state unemployment eligibility.** However, the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Benefits, which have expanded eligibility criteria from normal unemployment in order to include those not eligible for standard unemployment benefits, are only available retroactively from **March 29th to July 25th.**

3. **Do I Need to apply separately for the \$600 federal payment for unemployment compensation laid out from the CARES Act**
 - a. **Two Answers to this one:**
 - i. **If you have been collecting unemployment benefits already** and you have become unemployed because of the pandemic, you should be eligible and **you will not have to apply separately.**
 - ii. **If you are not eligible for traditional unemployment benefits,** but you think you are eligible for the PUA benefits from the CARES Act, you can go to unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov/expandedeligibility/ to fill out the pre-registration application.

4. **Is the new \$600 weekly benefit subject to state or federal income taxes?**
 - a. **The best sources I could find say YES,** however, Medicare and Social Security Taxes are not taken out of these funds. Workers will be sent a 1099-G form for the income collected during this period from the IRS during the next tax filing season.

5. **When will the \$600 federal payment be sent out?**
 - a. Another complicated answer, this one also in two parts
 - i. **If you are collecting traditional unemployment benefits** the funds will start being tacked onto your weekly deposits from the state and you do not need to take any further action.
 - ii. **If you are applying for expanded unemployment benefits through the PUA,** you will have to wait until the State sets up its system, but if you fill out the preregistration and any further forms they require, **you will begin to receive your benefits when the system gets fully set up in mid-May (as of 5/11)**

6. **Will the \$600 federal payment be paid retroactively to those that have been collecting unemployment since the passage of the bill? When will that Date of retroactivity start from?**
 - a. **YES,** if you became unemployed between **March 29th and July 25th,** you are eligible for these additional funds starting the moment you became unemployed dating back to March 29th.

Ohio House of Representatives



Michael O'Brien
State Representative, 64th District

To: International Union of Operating Engineers, Local #66
From: State Representative Michael O'Brien
RE: Unemployment Compensation Questions
Date: May 8, 2020

QUESTION: HAS THE WAITING PERIOD TO RECEIVE UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BEEN WAIVED?

Your claim will become effective the Sunday after your application is filed. Your first payment will begin processing after you (1) receive your eligibility determination and (2) file your first weekly claim. If eligible, you will receive payments retroactive to the date you became eligible. Due to the record number of claims, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services is at least one week behind schedule in payment distribution. Apply online and choose direct deposit for the quickest processing.

QUESTION: HOW LONG WILL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BE PAID OUT THROUGH THE STATE?

Regular unemployment benefits are a maximum of 26 weeks. If your maximum 26 weeks of regular unemployment benefits are about to expire, or if they previously expired after July 1, 2019, the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services will send you written notice with instructions explaining how to apply for extended 13 week benefits.

QUESTION: DO I NEED TO APPLY SEPARATELY FOR THE \$600 FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PAID OUT FROM THE CARES ACT?

No.

QUESTION: IS THE NEW \$600 WEEKLY FEDERAL BENEFIT SUBJECT TO STATE OR FEDERAL INCOME TAXES?

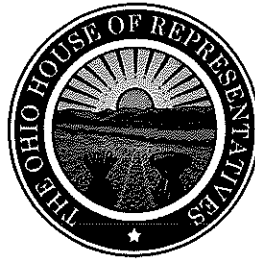
Yes. Unemployment compensation benefits are considered compensation just like income from a job, including the new \$600 weekly unemployment federal benefit.

QUESTION: WILL THE \$600 FEDERAL PAYMENT BE PAID RETROACTIVELY TO THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN COLLECTING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION SINCE THE PASSAGE OF THE BILL? WHEN WILL THE DATE OF RETROACTIVITY START FROM?

The first payment will include any retroactive payments which you may be eligible for, dating as far back as March 29, 2020.

Please note this information is courtesy of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services website, which I encourage members of Local #66 to review.

Contact:
 77 South High Street
 Columbus, OH 43215
 Phone: (614) 466-3488
 Email: Rep63@Ohiohouse.gov



Committees:
 Insurance
 Civil Justice
 Energy and Natural Resources
 Agriculture and Rural Development

State Representative H. Gilson Blair

1. Has the waiting period to receive unemployment benefits been waived?
 - a. Yes, the one week waiting period has been waived.
2. How long will unemployment benefits be paid out through the state?
 - a. People are eligible for 26 weeks through Ohio unemployment and an additional 13 weeks through the federal CARES Act.
3. Do I need to apply separately for the \$600 federal payment for unemployment compensation laid out from the CARES Act?
 - a. If you are already receiving unemployment benefits, you do not need to file separately for the \$600. You will receive your normal unemployment check, and a separate \$600 check.
 - b. If you are newly eligible for unemployment under the CARES Act, you will need to file a new application.
4. Is the new \$600 weekly federal benefits subject to state or federal income taxes?
 - a. When you file for unemployment you select whether you want taxes to come out before you receive your benefit or pay taxes on the benefit later. The \$600 PUA payment will follow whatever model you selected for your regular UI benefit. If they request to have taxes taken out first, it's \$480/week.
5. When will the weekly \$600 federal payment be sent out?
 - a. Payments started to go out the week of April 20th. The payments have been staggered, so if you haven't received them yet, you will in the next few weeks.
6. Will the \$600 federal payment be paid retroactively? When will that date of retroactivity start from?
 - a. Yes, the payment is retroactive starting from March 29th. The first check you will receive will include the retroactive payments.

Other Important Information:

Claims for unemployment are broken down for processing by the last 4 digits of your Social Security number. If you experience any issue with your claims or a "break in claim" status, try calling the processing center associated with your Social Security number. These centers tend to receive less calls and people have better luck getting through to talk to someone.

Social Security # Range (based on last 4 digits)	Location	Phone Number
0000-0765	Cleveland Adjudication Center	1-866-576-0006
0766-1942	Akron UI Delivery Center	1-866-768-0022
1943-2649	Lorain UI Delivery Center	1-866-849-0029

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2650-4121	Toledo UI Delivery Center	1-800-589-2799
4122-4710	Chillicothe Adjudication Center	1-866-244-0399
4711-6005	Marietta Adjudication Center	1-866-867-0044
6006-7182	Youngstown Adjudication Center	1-866-221-0558
7183-7477	Dayton UI Delivery Center	1-866-541-0187
7478-7701	Interstate and Federal	1-866-217-0008
7702-8360	Columbus UI Delivery Center	1-866-217-0008
8361-9999	Lima Adjudication Center	1-866-272-0118
0000-9999	Columbus Adjudication Center (Interstate & Federal Claims)	1-866-458-0007

Contact the Centers via mail: P.O. Box 182212, Columbus, OH 43218-2212 or
FAX: 1-614-466-7449

On any mailed and/or faxed correspondence, please include: claimant's
 FULL name, claimant ID and/or the last 4 digits of the SSN.

Filing for Unemployment on the Phone: 1-877-644-6562

Call center hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday

Pin Reset Call Number (also use this number if someone is locked out): 1-866-962-4064

Call center hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday

Starting on Sunday, April 26, individuals filing weekly claims should do so on the day of the week specified below, based on the first letter of their last name.

Date	First Letter of Last Name
Sunday	A through H
Monday	I through P
Tuesday	Q through Z
Wednesday	All
Thursday	All
Friday	All
Saturday	All