

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

The US Department of Labor (DOL) and the Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) are doing several things to help workers affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. The latest information is at:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-covid-19-unemployment-information>

For Workers Already on Unemployment Compensation:

- Requirements to attend seminars at MassHire centers are suspended.
- Deadlines missed due to effects of COVID-19 will be excused under the “good cause” rules.
- All appeal hearings are by telephone only. If you have an appeal pending, make sure DUA has a correct phone number for you.

For Workers Out of Work or Losing Hours Due to COVID-19:

IF SOMEONE IS OUT OF WORK OR HAS HAD A REDUCTION IN HOURS FOR ANY REASON RELATED TO COVID-19, THEY SHOULD APPLY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (UC) (unless they are getting paid sick leave from their employer).

Claimants are eligible in any of these situations:

- The business has shut down
- Their hours have been reduced significantly
- They have been told to stay home
- They have to stay out to care for a child or other family member

Apply through UI Online:

<https://uionline.detma.org/Claimant/Core/Login.ASPX>

If people can't use UI Online because of language, special needs, disability, etc., there is a form to set up a callback from DUA:

<https://www.mass.gov/forms/covid-19-department-of-unemployment-assistance-contact-request>