



IF YOU ARE NOT WORKING BECAUSE OF COVID-19, YOU CAN APPLY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS NOW!

YOU SHOULD APPLY IF YOU ARE NOT WORKING NOW, EVEN IF YOUR EMPLOYER TELLS YOU THAT THEY WILL CALL YOU BACK TO WORK LATER.

How to file for Unemployment Insurance (UI) Benefits:

Since so many people are out of work now, the New York Department of Labor (NYSDOL) is currently overwhelmed with applications. NYSDOL is now asking folks to apply for UI depending on their last name. Last names starting with A-F should file on Mondays, G-N file on Tuesdays, O-Z file on Wednesdays, and anyone that missed their filing day should file from Thursdays through Saturdays.

NYSDOL also has a step-by-step process to file a claim **online**. Go to this website for more info: <https://www.labor.ny.gov/ui/pdfs/Unemployment-Filing-Instructions.pdf>. To file online, the first step is to set up a New York government ID. You need an email address to do that. You should start applying for UIB right now!

[How to File Your Unemployment Insurance Claim Online](#)

Here is the path to file your Unemployment Insurance claim online. Point your browser to the "NYS Department of Labor Online Services for Individuals" Sign In page: Online Services Sign In After entering your NY.gov Username & Password, you will be brought to the "My Online Services" information page.
www.labor.ny.gov

You can also file your UI claim by **phone**:

Phone Service: 1-888-209-8124

Extended Telephone Filing Hours are:

Mondays through Thursdays 8am – 7:30pm

Fridays 8am – 6pm

Saturdays 7:30am – 8pm

Translation Services are offered if you file by phone. Use your phone keypad to enter the phone number for the language you choose, a voice recording will then offer you choices.

If you file online, Spanish services only are offered by clicking the “translate” button at the top right corner.

Hearing Impaired: 1-888-783-1370

TTY/TDD: Must call relay operator first at 1-888-662-1220, and ask the operator to call the Telephone Claims Center at 1-888-783-1370.

Once you have filed a claim for benefits, you must also claim weekly benefits for each week you are unemployed and meet the eligibility requirements. This is also called “certifying for benefits.” You are confirming that you were unemployed for all or part of the past week and that you met all other conditions of receiving benefits. Claim your weekly benefits each week online at www.labor.ny.gov/signin or by calling (888) 581-5812.

Additional Information:

NYS is waiving the 7-Day waiting period for Unemployment Insurance Benefits for people who are out of work due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) closures or quarantines. This means that if you apply right away, you could be eligible for benefits for the first week you are unemployed.

Working less than four days a week?

You can get partial benefits if you worked fewer than four days and made less than the maximum benefit rate (\$504) in a given week. You will not receive any benefits during weeks that you work four or more days or make more than the maximum benefit rate. Please be aware that any work, even for a few minutes a day, counts as a day of work.

For more information, you can access the NYS Unemployment Insurance Claimant Handbook here *(also available in Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Italian, Korean, Polish, Russian, and Spanish)*:

<https://labor.ny.gov/formsdocs/ui/TC318.3e.pdf>, and answers to frequently asked questions here: <https://labor.ny.gov/ui/faq.shtm>.