Federal pandemic unemployment benefits ending

(en español)

Aug. 11, 2021

The CARES Act and other federal programs that expanded and extended unemployment benefits are expiring.

The week ending Sept. 4 is the last payable week of benefits from these programs:

- **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)** – For the self-employed, freelancers, independent contractors and others who don't qualify for regular unemployment benefits.
- **Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)** - Extends benefits after you run out of regular unemployment benefits.
- **Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)** – The extra $300 a week for all eligible claimants.

If you still need benefits after Sept. 4, you might be able to:

- File weekly claims if you have an active unemployment claim.
- Apply for a new claim.
- Restart a claim.

What to do now

- **Keep filing your weekly claims**
  Through Sept. 4, keep filing for weeks that you want to receive benefits.
- **Watch for — and respond to — future messages**
  If you might be affected by the end of the federal pandemic programs, we will send you information in your eServices account or by mail. Respond to any of our requests for information. Even if you have stopped claiming or found a job, we still might need to contact you.
- **Get help with your job search**
  WorkSource can help you find your next job or career. Go to [WorkSourceWA.com](https://WorkSourceWA.com) to get started. Under Resources, use the WorkSource locator to find an office near you and see what services are available virtually and in-person.

We’re here to help you

We understand that the end of federal unemployment benefits is a confusing time. Many people will be calling our Unemployment Claims Center with questions. Reaching our agents by phone will be very difficult.

Try these resources first:

- Read about how to apply for benefits at [esd.wa.gov/unemployment](https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment).