

Nebraska Unemployment Insurance Changes

NOTE: As the COVID-19 public health situation changes and evolves, new laws and regulations are being continually issued. This information may not include the most recent information. For up-to-date issuances, check out The Nebraska Department of Labor's website at <https://www.dol.nebraska.gov/> and the U.S. Department of Labor's website at <https://www.dol.gov/>. The information provided is for informational purposes only, and not to be relied upon by you for your unique circumstances. You should always consult with an attorney regarding the laws and your rights.

The Governor of the State of Nebraska issued an [Executive Order](#) on March 17, 2020 loosening unemployment insurance benefit requirements effective from March 22, 2020 – May 2, 2020. A summary of the changes are described [Press Release](#) issued by the Governor's office. More information about these changes are listed below.

You may be entitled to receive unemployment benefits if you:

- Lost your job
- Have been laid off
- Are in unpaid status due to your work being shut down
- Are in quarantine
- Are sick and need to miss work
- Are caring for a family member who is ill
- Are caring for a family member due to a facility closure (e.g. school closure, daycare closure)

How to File for Unemployment

File for unemployment benefits as soon as your job ends, your hours are reduced, or any of the circumstances listed above occurs.

- File for unemployment insurance online at <https://newworks.nebraska.gov/vosnet/Default.aspx>
- Step by step instructions to apply for unemployment insurance found at: <https://www.dol.nebraska.gov/webdocs/getfile/d9c15f48-1d09-4f82-9839-1ceaaa388159>
- The Nebraska Unemployment Benefit call center phone number is (402) 458-2500. However, the Nebraska Department of Labor is recommending individuals do as much as possible online.
- Local Job Centers may have limited computers and limited staff to assist you in applying for unemployment benefits. Local Job Center contact information can be found at this link: <https://www.dol.nebraska.gov/Home/AboutUs>

Work Search Requirements Waived

- From March 22 - May 2, 2020, you do NOT need to search for work while you receive unemployment benefits. You can search for work if you choose.

One Week Waiting Period Waived

- From March 22-May 2, the normal one week waiting period is waived