

FAQs About COVID-19

and Maryland's Unemployment Insurance Benefits Administration - Unemployment Insurance



Q: If my employer temporarily ceases operations due to COVID-19, preventing me from coming to work, am I eligible for benefits?

If you are laid off temporarily due to a business shut down as a result of COVID-19, the Division of Unemployment Insurance recommends that you file a claim for unemployment insurance. After you file a claim for unemployment insurance benefits, the Division of Unemployment Insurance will determine whether you qualify to receive unemployment insurance benefits.



Q: If I am quarantined due to COVID-19 with the expectation of returning to work after the quarantine is over, am I eligible for benefits?

The first and best option for employees who need to miss work due to illness is to use their employer-paid time off. The Maryland Healthy Working Families Act requires employers with 15 or more employees to provide paid sick and safe leave for certain employees. Maryland employers who employ 14 or fewer employees are required to provide unpaid sick and safe leave for certain employees.



Q: If I decide to leave my employment due to a reasonable risk of exposure or infection of COVID-19 or to care for a family member due to COVID-19, am I eligible for benefits?

If you are not exhibiting any symptoms of coronavirus, COVID-19, and you decide to leave your employment, the Division of Unemployment Insurance recommends that you file a claim for unemployment insurance. You may be determined to be eligible for benefits if the circumstances of your job separation are allowable under Maryland's provisions for good cause and/or just circumstances for voluntarily leaving work, Section 8-1001 of Maryland Unemployment Insurance Law.



Q: If an employer lays off employees due to the loss of production caused by COVID-19, will the employees be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits?

Maryland unemployment benefits are available to individuals who are unemployed through no fault of their own. If an employer lays off employees due to a loss of production as a direct result of COVID-19, individuals may be eligible for unemployment benefits if they meet certain criteria.



Q: If my employer reduces my hours as a result of COVID-19, will I be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits?

If your employer has reduced your normal work hours as a result of COVID-19, you may be eligible for partial benefits.

You can apply for unemployment insurance benefits online or by phone between 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 410-949-0022 or 800-827-4839.

<https://secure-2.dllr.state.md.us/NetClaims/>