

HOW TO: PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

For employees who have been furloughed or laid-off due to COVID-19, with special instructions for 1099 contractors, self-employed, and gig workers.

HOW TO APPLY

[Eligibility](#)

[What you'll need](#)

[Online Application](#)

The process is estimated to take about 25 minutes, but after numerous errors, it can take close to two hours.

ONCE YOU KNOW YOUR LAST DATE OF WORK COMPENSATION, YOU CAN APPLY THE FOLLOWING DAY.

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE PROCESS + KEY QUESTIONS

Current Employment Status: Temporary Layoff with Recall

Are you looking for work? No

If offered a job today, would you accept? (Some have chosen yes, others have chosen no. No offers choices to reason why you wouldn't. 'Yes' seems like a safe option. They can't handcuff you and drag you to work.)

Are you self-employed, or the owner, or operator of a business or farm? For self-employed, choose "Yes."

About halfway through the process, you will have the opportunity to answer as to whether or not your employment is affected by COVID-19. Choose "Yes" to ensure you're eligible for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance once it rolls out.

REGARDING PUA AND CARES ACT

Though the CARES act was signed into law on March 27, 2020, Tennessee does not expect to roll-out its subsequent benefits until the second week of April, vaguely described by Governor Lee.

Once Tennessee finalizes its agreement with the Department of Labor, we can expect to see up to a \$600 increase in weekly unemployment compensation, though specifics as to how the final number per applicant will be calculated has not been made clear. From the Department of Labor:

Depending on how your state chooses to implement the CARES Act. The new law creates the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation program (FPUC), which provides an additional \$600 per week to individuals who are collecting regular UC (unemployment compensation)...