

THE CONTINUED ASSISTANCE FOR UNEMPLOYED WORKERS ACT

EXTENDS THE CARES ACT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAMS

Up to 11 additional weeks of FPUC, PUA, and PEUC benefits will be available to eligible claimants. Claimants may currently file claims and receive benefit payments under these programs in Maryland.

FPUC

FEDERAL PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (FPUC)

- ⇒ Payable for weeks ending Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021, to Saturday, March 13, 2021.
- ⇒ \$300 additional weekly benefit to claimants receiving benefits under another unemployment insurance program.
- ⇒ No additional application required.

PUA

PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE (PUA)

- ⇒ Payable for weeks ending Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021 to Saturday, April 10, 2021. Applications for this program must be submitted **NO LATER THAN March 13, 2021.**
- ⇒ Payable for a maximum of 50 weeks total, including previous weeks of PUA. For example, a claimant who received 39 weeks of PUA payments prior to Dec. 27, 2020 is eligible for 11 additional weeks under the renewal.
- ⇒ Claimants cannot claim PUA benefits after the week ending April 10, 2021, even if a claimant has not exhausted the 50 weeks.
- ⇒ As of Jan. 31, 2021, claimants must submit proof of employment to qualify. New PUA applicants must submit proof within 21 days of Jan. 31, 2021, and existing PUA claimants must submit within 90 days. States are now required to verify claimant's identity.
- ⇒ Claimants certify weekly whether they are unemployed due to COVID-19 and select the specific COVID-19 related reason they are unemployed.

PEUC

PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (PEUC)

- ⇒ Payable for weeks ending Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021 to Saturday, April 10, 2021. Applications for this program must be submitted **NO LATER THAN March 13, 2021.**
- ⇒ Will provide UP TO an additional 11 weeks of benefits, to a maximum of 24 weeks. Any prior PEUC benefit weeks paid will be subtracted from the 24-week total. For example,, a claimant who received 10 weeks of PEUC before Dec. 27, 2020 is eligible for 14 additional weeks under the renewal.
- ⇒ Claimants cannot claim PEUC benefits after the week ending April 10, 2021, even if a claimant has not exhausted the 24 weeks.

MEUC

MIXED EARNER UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (MEUC)

- ⇒ Payable for weeks ending Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021, to Saturday, March 13, 2021.
- ⇒ Provides an additional \$100 weekly benefit payment to claimants that are receiving regular UI, PEUC, EB, or Work Sharing benefits. It is NOT available to PUA claimants.
- ⇒ To be eligible, claimants must provide documentation that they earned at least \$5,000 (net) in SELF-EMPLOYMENT Income in the prior taxable year.

The Maryland Department of Labor has implemented the PUA, PEUC, and FPUC program extensions. However, the Department must wait on guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor before the MEUC program can be fully implemented. The Department will notify potentially eligible claimants when they may apply for benefits under the MEUC program.