



PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE (PUA)

There is expanded eligibility for unemployment compensation benefits to workers that would not qualify for traditional unemployment compensation.

Q: Who is covered under PUA?

- Workers who have exhausted their rights to traditional Unemployment Compensation (UC) benefits after July 19, 2019
- Workers who are self-employed, freelancers, independent contractors, gig workers, and/or 1099 tax filers
- Workers who lost or are working at reduced hours in part-time employment
- Workers who lack sufficient work history or earnings to qualify for traditional UC benefits

Q. Who is NOT covered under PUA?

- Workers who can telework with pay
(unless they work fewer hours than they did prior to COVID-19, in which case they may qualify for Disaster Unemployment Assistance)
- Workers receiving paid leave unless they are getting benefits for less than their normal work week

Q: How many weeks may a person receive PUA benefits?

A: Benefits are capped at 39 weeks.

Q: If PUA is approved, how much will I get in PUA benefits?

A: The benefit amount is similar to traditional unemployment benefits, and the minimum PUA amount is \$189.00. Otherwise, it is 50% of your average weekly wage.

Q: I heard about a \$600 payment. Will I get it too?

A: Starting the week ending April 4, 2020, through July 25, 2020, if you qualify for PUA benefits, you will also receive an additional \$600.00 per week through the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) program.

Q: How do I apply for PUA benefits in Ohio?

A: Apply online at <https://pua.unemployment.ohio.gov>. If you have questions, call 1-833-604-0774.

Q: What info will I need to apply for PUA?

A: Name, address, telephone number, a valid email address, social security number, date of birth, driver’s license or state ID number, and dates of employment for 2019 and 2020; Reason for unemployment; Dependent information (spouse or children) and their social security number and date of birth; Banking information for direct deposit (or you can choose to get benefits on a debit card); and 2019 tax return if available

If you are self-employed, you must submit acceptable proof of employment, including but not limited to, W-2 forms, recent pay stubs or vouchers, earnings statements (reflecting profit and loss), or recent bank records showing payroll direct deposit.

Q: Do I have to submit weekly claims to receive PUA benefits?

A: Yes, you must submit a claim for every week you have been unemployed due to COVID-19.

Q: What are the current dates of the PUA program?

A: January 27, 2020-December 31, 2020

For a Step-by-Step Application Instructions for PUA see:

<https://jfs.ohio.gov/ouio/pdf/PUA-StepByStepApplicationInstructions.pdf>

This information is current as of 06/19/2020.

Questions?

Southeastern Ohio Legal Services 800.686.3996 (Southeastern Ohio)

Legal Aid Society of Columbus 614.241.2001 (Central Ohio)

Marion Office 740.383.2161 or 888.301.2411 (Delaware, Marion, Morrow, and Union counties)

Each of our programs provide free legal services for low-income Ohioans and seniors.

LASC/SEOLS does not discriminate against any person on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, disability, age, ancestry, or military status in admission, treatment, or participation in our programs, services and activities, or in our hiring and employment practices.

