

## Job Search Resources

> **American Job Centers (AJCs)** help people search for jobs, find training, and answer other employment related questions. For more information, visit [careeronestop.org](http://careeronestop.org).

> The **Adult Dislocated Worker Program** assists individuals who have been laid off, or who are scheduled to be laid off and need transition assistance to find a new job. Contact: 1-877-872-5627

> The **Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP)** provides part-time training positions to low-income persons age 55+. Participants are paid at least the Federal minimum wage. For more, visit [dol.gov/agencies/eta/seniors/](http://dol.gov/agencies/eta/seniors/)  
> Visit **benefits.gov** to see what additional resources you may be eligible for.

## Schooling Information

### High School Diploma/Equivalency

Los Angeles Public Library offers a Career Online High School program free for adults who live or work in Los Angeles ([lapl.org/diploma](http://lapl.org/diploma)). Alternately, an in-person GED test grants high school equivalency.

### Vocational Schooling

Employment rates for individuals that attend vocational school are higher than for those who only have a diploma. Vocational schooling costs less than a college degree and allows individuals to gain special skills in a field, increasing the possibility of a leadership position in the future.

### Higher Education

For those aiming for a field that requires a college degree, start by considering community college and become aware of as many scholarship opportunities as possible.

## COVID-19 Relief

### COVID-19 Unemployment Insurance Relief (CARES)

The CARES Act, which was signed into law in March 2020, gives individual states more power and flexibility to grant unemployment benefits. Visit [dol.gov/coronavirus](http://dol.gov/coronavirus) for more information.

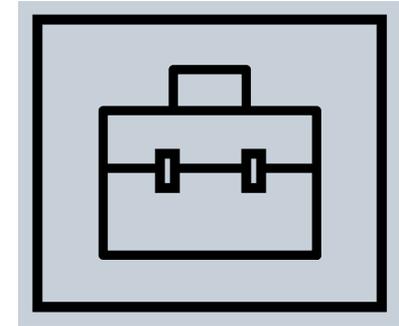
### Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance is a California statewide program which targets assistance for unemployed or employed California residents that previously did not qualify for unemployment insurance, and who have had financial losses directly due to the pandemic. Note that this program is restricted to individuals authorized to work in the United States. Visit [edd.ca.gov](http://edd.ca.gov) or the opposite side of this pamphlet for more information.

### Mental Health

Unemployment increases an individuals' risk of suffering from a mental illness. If you feel that you need mental health guidance:

- > **Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Benefits:** for individuals with disabilities who have mental health conditions.
- > **SAMHSA's National Helpline, 1-800-662-HELP (4357):** a confidential, free, 24/7 information service providing local referrals to local support.
- > **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255:** 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.



## Unemployment Resources



**SCOPE PATIENT  
HEALTH ADVOCATES**

*Based in West Los Angeles*

[www.uclscope.org/patient-health-advocates](http://www.uclscope.org/patient-health-advocates)

## Introduction

Unemployment benefits work on an **insurance system**. This means that employers and employees both contribute to the insurance fund. The most common reasons for not filing for benefits include: not being eligible, unaware of how to file for benefits and administrative errors made in the filing process, as well as stigma regarding unemployment benefits.

**For more information, visit [edd.ca.gov](http://edd.ca.gov).**



### DID YOU KNOW?

**4.4%** *Unemployment rate in the US as of March 2020 according to BLS.*

**37.5%** *Percentage of the unemployed that collect benefits related to their work status*

**876.4%** *Amount by which initial claims increased during March 2020*

## Additional Resources

- > <https://www.edd.ca.gov/unemployment/ui-calculator.htm> is a useful EDD calculator to estimate how much benefits you will receive.
- > [eligibility.com/unemployment/california](http://eligibility.com/unemployment/california) has more information on CA benefits & eligibility.
- > [edd.ca.gov/disability](http://edd.ca.gov/disability) explains the California State Disability Insurance (SDI) program.
- > [usa.gov/help-with-bills#item-214633](http://usa.gov/help-with-bills#item-214633) contains a directory of links that discuss the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

## Eligibility & Claims

*Requirements to file for unemployment insurance claims include:*

- 1.** Past earnings must meet minimum threshold of \$1,300 in 1 quarter of your base period year (1 base period = one 3-month quarter of 12-month period of time).
- 2.** Must be unemployed through no fault of your own, as defined by California law.
- 3.** Must be able, available, and actively seeking work.\*\*

## Filing for a Claim

*After qualifying, there are 3 main ways to file a claim.*

### 1 Online (Highly Recommended)

Register using the site:

[https://www.edd.ca.gov/Unemployment/UI\\_Online.htm](https://www.edd.ca.gov/Unemployment/UI_Online.htm)

*\*\*You can't file a claim on most days between 8pm-4am.*

### 2 By Phone

Available Mon-Fri 8am-12pm via **1-800-300-5616** for English speakers and **1-800-326-8937** for Spanish speakers. For other languages, visit their website.

### 3 By Fax or Mail

Paper applications can be found on

[https://www.edd.ca.gov/Unemployment/Filing\\_a\\_Claim.htm](https://www.edd.ca.gov/Unemployment/Filing_a_Claim.htm)

### ⚠️ COVID-19 UPDATES ⚠️

- ▶ You don't have to serve the 1-week unpaid waiting period before getting paid benefits.
- ▶ You are not required to look for work each week to be eligible for benefits during the coronavirus outbreak until further notice.

## The Claims Process

*The application process consists of 3 main steps:*

- 1. REGISTER:** File a claim.
- 2. CLAIM FILED:** After applying, you will receive a Notice of Unemployment Insurance Claim Filed statement by mail. Check this notice for errors and report any of them to the EDD within 10 days.
- 3. PHONE INTERVIEW:** If the department needs more information, they will schedule a phone interview.

## Next Steps

**IF FOUND ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS:** You will receive several documents including an EDD account number and a Continued Claim form (very important). You can receive benefit payments via: **(1) EDD Debit Card** through Bank of America or **(2) by check**. It takes minimum **three weeks** to process a claim and issue payments.

**IF FOUND INELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS:** You will be mailed a document with a reason. The 2nd-3rd paragraph will explain *why* you were found ineligible.

## Certify for Continued Benefits

To keep receiving benefits, you must "certify" by providing the EDD eligibility information every two weeks. This can be filled out through UI Online's website or app or through the mail with the aforementioned Continued Claim form.

***If you are unable to work due to illness, injury, or pregnancy, you may be eligible for Disability Insurance.***