



Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) Emergency Extension of Benefits Frequently Asked Questions

Note: Information is updated frequently and is also subject to change. Please check back for updates based on further guidance and clarification received from the U.S. Department of Labor.

On March 12, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was signed into law. This emergency benefit provides additional weeks of extended unemployment benefits to those who have exhausted their traditional unemployment benefit through Sept. 4, 2021.

How do I receive extended benefits? Will it be an application?

Yes, if your benefits have exhausted or your benefit year has expired, you will need to go online to jobs.utah.gov/ui/home/initialclaims and select “File New or Reopen Claim” to complete a claims application. The system will determine if you are eligible for an extension or a traditional unemployment claim.

Are extended benefits applied retroactively?

No. The additional weeks of extended benefits approved cannot be paid out for any weeks that ended prior to the enactment of the original legislation on Dec. 27, 2020.

How long are extended benefits available for?

The PEUC program will pay up to a total of 53 additional weeks of traditional unemployment benefits for those eligible or until the program expires on Sept. 4, 2021.

What if I have returned to work but I was unemployed with exhausted benefits previously because of COVID-19?

The additional weeks of extended benefits available through the Act cannot be paid out prior to the enactment of the original legislation on Dec. 27, 2020. As a result, an individual who has previously exhausted and is now working is likely ineligible for the federal extension of benefits.

What if I started a new job and quit the new job because of the availability of extended unemployment benefits?

Quitting your job will most likely make you ineligible for unemployment benefits. Unemployment benefits are available to individuals who are unemployed through no fault of their own.

Are the extended weeks also eligible for the additional \$300 a week benefit?

Yes; but, only beginning the week ending week ending Jan. 2, 2021, through Sept. 4, 2021. There is no additional action you need to take beyond filing your weekly claims. Eligibility for the \$300 weekly benefit will automatically be considered during the eligible time period.

Will I need to file a weekly claim while receiving extended unemployment?

Yes, you will need to file weekly claims to receive weekly payments. Those weekly claims can be filed at the same location you filed your initial application. You must begin to file a weekly claim the Sunday following your initial claim and every week thereafter while you are unemployed.

Will retro week payments be paid out?

Yes; but, only for eligible weeks ending Jan. 2, 2021, through Sept. 4, 2021. If there are delays in processing, all eligible weeks will be paid. Like traditional unemployment, processing times are 21-30 days from the date of application.