

Employer Unemployment Insurance FAQs

What are the qualifications for laid off employees for Unemployment Insurance under the Governor's Executive Order?

Qualifications are unchanged by the executive order. Unemployment Insurance is for employees laid off from work; separated under non-disqualifying conditions. Individuals must still meet the standard monetary eligibility requirements. Employees should file a claim online, and we assess eligibility at that point in time.

Do they still have to meet the qualifications prior to the Executive Order or do they automatically qualify no matter what the circumstances?

All claimants must meet monetary eligibility requirements and be unemployed through no fault of their own. Layoffs because of the COVID-19 pandemic are non-disqualifying. Waivers of Work Search, Unpaid Waiting Week and Employer Charging in Executive Order 20-04, apply to all claimants for the duration of the Executive Order.

How long before employees will get their first check? How long will they get benefits?

Due to increased claim load we are not able to give an estimated timeframe, but NDOL is working diligently to get payment as quickly as possible to eligible individuals.

What instructions on applying for Unemployment Insurance should I give to my employees who are being laid off?

Direct them to [Neworks.nebraska.gov](https://neworks.nebraska.gov) or the Neworks mobile app to file an unemployment claim. There are step-by-step instructions on how to file a claim at dol.nebraska.gov/uibenefits.

Do part-time employees qualify?

Part-time employees are welcome to apply. Claims filed are handled on a case by case basis.

How long do they need to have been employed in order to qualify?

There is no timeframe. If anyone is unsure about qualifying, go to [Neworks.nebraska.gov](https://neworks.nebraska.gov) and file anyway.

Since some individuals are simply having hours reduced and not eliminated, what is the litmus test for whether they qualify or not?

If you are unsure if you qualify, go to [Neworks.nebraska.gov](https://neworks.nebraska.gov) and file. If an employer is reducing hours we recommend you consider Short-Time Compensation. Information about the STC program is available at <https://dol.nebraska.gov/STC>

What documentation will suffice to prove a drastic cut in hours?

Employers simply need to reply to the Department as information is requested. The Department will reach out via phone and in writing.

What percentage of their paycheck would they be eligible for and for how long would they be eligible?

This is determined on a case-by-case basis. Generally speaking, a claimant will receive ½ of their average weekly salary. The maximum weekly benefit amount in Nebraska is \$440.

Do they still have to meet the requirement of looking for other jobs since they'd still be employed with us?

No, this requirement is waived for claimants from March 22nd through May 2nd 2020.

If wages were cut significantly but not completely, are employees eligible for unemployment benefits?

Eligibility is possible. Employees should go to [Neworks.nebraska.gov](https://neworks.nebraska.gov) and file. If an employer is reducing hours we recommend considering Short-Time Compensation. Information about the STC program is available at <https://dol.nebraska.gov/STC>.