

COVID-19 RELATED NDOL - EMPLOYER BASED FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I get a username and password? OR I don't know my username/password.

Create an Employer account at NEworks.nebraska.gov.

For username and password resets please e-mail ndol.NIChelp@nebraska.gov, or use the Retrieve User Name or password option.

How do I update company information?

Log into your NEworks account to update contact or address information.

For username and password resets please e-mail ndol.NIChelp@nebraska.gov.

How do I request more information on Short Time Compensation process?

Please visit dol.nebraska.gov/STC for contact information and more.

What can I do to support my employees in filing for unemployment during this time?

Please direct claimants to file online at NEworks.nebraska.gov. Timely responses from employers to Nebraska Department of Labor employees are extremely helpful to expedite claim processing. You may also consider Short Time Compensation instead of a full layoff. More information about STC is available at dol.nebraska.gov/STC.

What type of employer relief can be expected?

Unemployment benefits are typically paid with contributions from employers. NDOL will temporarily waive charges incurred by these employers whose team members are filing claims related to COVID-19.

NDOL also has a Short-Time compensation program. STC helps prevent layoffs by allowing employers to uniformly reduce affected employees' hours by 10 to 60 percent while permitting the employees to receive a prorated unemployment benefit. Go to dol.nebraska.gov/STC for more information about Short Time Compensation.

Will I be charged on claims filed after 03/22/20 that are a direct result of COVID-19 exposure or illness?

Employers will not be charged during the timeframe of the executive order, March 22, 2020 to May 2, 2020.

I am sending workers home for an unknown period of time and without pay. What return date do they put on their UI application? And what reason for separation do they use?

Employees will be considered attached to the employer, no return to work date is needed. Clear, concise reasons for separation like "COVID-19 office closure," "Lack of work due to COVID-19" are the most helpful.

If I have already let people go, can I recall them back and then apply for the Short Time Compensation?

Yes.

Even though I am the business owner I pay myself an actual wage and pay into the unemployment insurance system. Can I file for unemployment?

Eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis. If as the business owner, you pay unemployment insurance taxes on your wages, you may be eligible for UI. We recommend you file online at NEworks.nebraska.gov.

Can the owners of a business file a claim for unemployment benefits if they are sole proprietors or partners that are not covered under the existing Nebraska Unemployment Security law and thus would not have any wages in the UI tax system? Non-profit and religious organizations have similar circumstances.

Eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis. If the employer does NOT pay unemployment insurance tax on wages, the wages will not be considered for monetary eligibility. We recommend you file online at NEworks.nebraska.gov.

Does a claimant still have to meet the minimum wage earnings (\$4246 total in the year/\$1850 in a quarter & at least \$800 in another quarter) to qualify under this emergency UI system?

Yes.

Will there be a ‘help line’ to assist claimants outside of normal business hours since we are dealing with many individuals who have never had to file a claim?

No. Please check the NDOL COVID-19 Resources page for the latest updates.

How does this impact individuals who are currently drawing benefits through the existing system, specifically work search requirements?

The requirement to search for work is waived for all claimants from March 22 to May 2.

What about people that filed before March 22 for COVID-19 related reasons? Do they miss out on the waivers?

No.