

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are regular state Unemployment Insurance benefits the only available benefits now that federal benefits have expired?

Yes. Eligibility information can be found at dol.nebraska.gov/UIBenefits.

What is the maximum weekly benefit amount I can receive on regular unemployment?

2021's maximum is \$456. This amount is adjusted yearly.

What are the earnings requirements for regular unemployment benefits?

In order to be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits, you must meet the minimum earned wages requirement during the look-back period. For 2021, the minimum wages requirement is \$4,386. The minimum wages requirement is adjusted annually. In addition to meeting the minimum wages requirement, you must also have been paid at least \$1,850 in one quarter and \$800 in another quarter. Wages must have been earned from employers required to pay unemployment insurance taxes (insured employers). Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-627.01(1a) More information is available in the Handbook for Unemployed Workers at dol.nebraska.gov/UIBenefits.

I applied for regular benefits and received a notice that I am monetarily ineligible. What does this mean and why am I ineligible?

This means you have not met the earnings requirements during the look-back period for your claim. You must have the specified amount of earnings from employers required to pay unemployment insurance taxes in order to be monetarily eligible. Under Nebraska law, you cannot receive benefits on 'back-to-back' unemployment claims unless you have worked in insured employment since the filing date of your prior claim and earned at least six times the previous weekly benefit amount. Your new claim must meet both the minimum monetary requirements and the requalification requirement. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-627.01(1b).

Since the federal programs ended June 19, will I still be paid for prior weeks of federal benefits that I have not yet received?

All claims for federal benefits covering weeks of unemployment through June 19 will continue to be processed. Payments will still be issued on any weeks through June 19 for which you are found eligible.