

# Work Search FAQs

## Individuals

### Do I need to look for work if I'm working reduced hours?

If you will work or have already worked 80 hours within the 16 weeks since your layoff or furlough, you do not need to engage in a work search to remain eligible. Otherwise, you will need to meet the work search requirements for each week that you claim benefits.

### What if it's been more than 16 weeks since I was laid off or furloughed, but my employer has confirmed I'm going back soon?

Your employer should fill out a request to extend the return to work date using the [extension form](#) at [dol.nebraska.gov](#). Each employer request will be reviewed on a case by case basis. If a firm recall date is known, employers should provide that date with a thorough explanation of why the date is outside of the 16-week timeframe. Unless you are notified that you will not need to search for work, you should do so as long as you are claiming benefits, and record your reemployment activities when filing your claim.

### What if I'm beyond 16 weeks since my furlough began and my employer agreed I shouldn't come back to work yet because I'm high risk and my doctor doesn't recommend it?

Speak with your employer about possible telework opportunities or paid leave options. Ask your employer to complete the [extension form](#) at [dol.nebraska.gov](#). Each employer request will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Unless you are notified that you will not need to search for work, you should do so as long you are claiming benefits, and record your reemployment activities when filing your claim.

### I didn't report a return date on my claim because I didn't know the date when I filed. What should I do?

Ask your employer for the expected return date. They may enter the date on the [extension form](#) at [dol.nebraska.gov](#). Each employer request will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Unless you are notified that you will not need to search for work, you should do so as long you are claiming benefits, and record your reemployment activities when filing your claim.

## Employers

### I'm an employer with some workers coming back within 16 weeks of their layoff and others scheduled to come back after 16 weeks. What should I tell these workers?

Complete the [extension form](#) at [dol.nebraska.gov](#). Each employer request will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Employees should complete the reemployment activities while the extension request is pending.

### I didn't set a return date when I furloughed my employees. What should I do?

Complete the [extension form](#) at [dol.nebraska.gov](#). Each employer request will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Employees should complete the reemployment activities while the extension request is pending.

### The return date for my employees is now different than when they filed their claims. How can I update this?

Complete the [extension form](#) at [dol.nebraska.gov](#). Each employer request will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Employees should complete the reemployment activities while the extension request is pending.

### I have elderly and at-risk employees at my business and won't be calling them back until there is less risk. Will they need to search for work?

If there is an expected return date, complete the [extension form](#) at [dol.nebraska.gov](#). Each employer request will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Employees should complete the reemployment activities while the extension request is pending. If a return date has not been established, the employees will need to meet the work search requirements as long as they are claiming benefits.

### How long will it take for the extension to be approved or denied?

The time for a response will vary based on workload. If a response is pending and the attachment period has expired, employees should complete the reemployment activities until otherwise notified.

### How will I know whether the extension I requested has been approved or denied?

NDOL will respond to the email address provided on the form. Please make sure and provide a current email address when you submit the form.

### If the extension request is denied, what should my employees do?

They will need to meet the work search requirements for all weeks that they are claiming benefits.

### How is the Nebraska Department of Labor deciding which extension requests to approve or deny?

Decisions are made based on applicable state and federal laws and available information. It is important that employers provide as much information as possible when requesting an extension.