



NJ STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

August 2015

File using the Internet – www.njuifile.net

If you do not wish to file your claim via the Internet, you may file by telephoning your ***Reemployment Call Center:**

Northeast New Jersey – 201 601-4100
Northwest & Central New Jersey – 732 761-2020
South Jersey – 856 507-2340
Out-of-State – 888 795-6672

There are never charges to file an Unemployment Insurance claim in any state or territory. Please be aware that there are private websites that charge fees to provide information on New Jersey's Unemployment Insurance Benefits Program or try to offer assistance with filing an Unemployment Insurance claim.

You may file your new unemployment claim, or reopen an existing claim via the Internet if all of your work was in New Jersey in the past 18 months.

You are encouraged to apply online at www.njuifile.net. If you are unable or don't want to file via the Internet, file by contacting your ***Reemployment Call Center** (listed above.)

To file your claim, please have the following available:

- Pencil/pen and paper.
- Your Social Security Number.
- Alien Registration Documentation (if you are not a U.S. citizen).
- Your bank information if you wish to have your benefits direct deposited.
- Employer information on all employer(s) in the last 18 months including name, address, telephone number, beginning and end dates of employment, and reason for separation.
- A New Jersey driver's license or Non-Driver Photo ID Card. This is not a requirement for filing a claim, but can help to expedite processing.

Please be advised:

1. *If your computer is idle for 30 minutes or more, your session will be "timed out" and your entire claim information will be lost.*
2. *If you exit for any reason before completing the application, all your information will be lost.*
3. *The information you submit is confidential.*
4. *The online application uses a secure connection to encrypt the data you submit.*

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I claim back weeks if I did not immediately file a claim when I became unemployed?

A. To be eligible for benefits, you must file a claim. Usually, the claim will be backdated no further than the Sunday of the week you filed. However, there are some circumstances that allow for the backdating of your claim (Examples: you were working reduced hours with your employer; you attempted to file a claim against another state). If you believe your claim should be backdated, mention it to the agent when you file your claim by telephone. If you file your claim via the Internet, you may request your claim be backdated by calling your ***Reemployment Call Centers** (listed at top of this page).

Q. I am going to be laid off next week; can I file my unemployment claim now so my claim is ready?

A. No. If you are employed full-time, you cannot file an unemployment claim. Claims filed before separation from employment are not valid because you are considered to be "Employed Full-time." You cannot file an unemployment claim until you become unemployed or partially unemployed.

Q. Does my Pension or Social Security affect my claim?

A. Social Security Retirement benefits do not affect your unemployment benefits. If you are eligible to receive a pension from an employer that is included on your unemployment claim, the benefits may be reduced. The term "pension" includes benefits paid in a lump sum, such as 401K, as well as pensions that are paid on a monthly basis. If you have applied, received or expect to receive a pension, a claims examiner appointment will be scheduled to discuss the pension. If you contributed the entire cost of your pension, your unemployment benefits will not be reduced. If you and your employer contributed to the pension, 50% of your weekly pension amount will be subtracted from your unemployment benefits. If your employer contributed the entire cost of your pension, your unemployment benefits will be reduced by 100% of your weekly pension amount.

Q. Should I wait until my severance pay ends to file a claim?

A. No, because some severance/separation payments do not extend employment. You should file your claim after you stop working full-time. Payments that do not extend employment include severance payments based on years of service with an employer. However, salary continuation through termination and payments in Lieu of Notice, do extend employment. When you file your claim by telephone, the agent will review all separation payments with you before the claim filing process is completed. If you file your claim via the Internet, and it appears that your payment for periods after your last date of work may affect your unemployment benefits, you will be scheduled for an interview with a claims examiner.

Q. How long does it take after I claim my benefits by using the telephone or the Internet to receive a check?

A. If you are entitled to a benefit check, it will be mailed out the next business day after you claim your benefits by using the telephone or the Internet.

**Making Effective Use of the
NJ Department of Labor & Workforce Development (NJ LWD) Website**

<http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/>

It is recommended that you review this website in its entirety, as it is very user friendly and comprehensive. Some of the most important information on the website is listed below:

Job Seeker information – Employment Opportunities, Career Development and Skills Assessment, Explore Occupations, Job Fairs, Job Search Support Services.

Or go to <http://jobs4jersey.com/>

Resume Creation, Editing, and Posting - Jobs4Jersey.com's *OnRamp* allows job seekers to upload, edit and post resumes and receive email alerts of new jobs matching their skills and experience. Or go to <http://jobs4jersey.com/>

Adult Basic Education, GED Prep, One Stop Career Centers

Skill Enhancement, Educational Opportunities, Workshops and other Free and Personalized Services provided by County One Stop Career Centers.

Or go to <http://jobs4jersey.com/jobs4jersey/jobseekers/training/>

Vocational Rehabilitation (DVRs) - Services enabling individuals with disabilities, both longstanding and recent, to find jobs or keep their existing jobs.

Or go to <http://jobs4jersey.com/jobs4jersey/jobseekers/disable/index.html>

Unemployment Insurance - Filing or Reopening a Claim, etc.

Or go to http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/ui/ui_index.html

- ✓ **Unemployment Insurance (UI) Blue Book** – Eligibility, the Filing Process, Calculating your Benefit Rate, etc.

Or go to <http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/fli/fliindex.html>

- ✓ **Partial Unemployment Benefits** - Part-time work eligibility & rates.

Or go to <http://lwd.state.nj.us/labor/ui/claim/ptwages.html>

O*NET - National Job Description Database <http://online.onetcenter.org/>

*Another useful tool is O*NET, the national job description database that lists most jobs and job titles, the skills, abilities, education and training required to do the jobs, and other jobs that require similar skills:*

- ✓ Identify your skills by entering your current and past job titles, which will bring up current and past job descriptions;
- ✓ Use your skills list to develop effective resumes targeted to specific jobs;
- ✓ Focus your job search by identifying related occupations requiring your skill set;
- ✓ Identify any training/skills needed to do related occupations.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

www.njhelps.com

Provided by the NJ Department of Human Services, this web site is a one-stop shopping resource for 28 state and federal programs. Determine your eligibility for housing, employment, child care, health insurance, prescriptions, pay for food, and more at this useful site.

877-872-5627 (877 US2-JOBS)

America's Workforce Network Toll-Free Help Line

Offers fast, easy, free information by trained professionals who can refer you to federal, state and local services.

DIAL 2-1-1 (or 877 652-1148)

NJ's 24/7 hotline to many of the various governmental, community, and non-profit services and resources available to you and your family. All calls are confidential.

800-328-3838 – NJ Family Health Line

(Immunizations, Clinics, etc.)

800-701-0710 – NJ FamilyCare

(Affordable Healthcare for Uninsured Children)

800-322-8092 – NJ Women's Referral Center

(County Social Services, Displaced Homemakers, Housing, Violence, Child Care, etc.)

877 496-4951 - NJ Homekeeper Program

<http://www.njhomekeeper.com/spv-55.aspx>

Funded through a Federal grant from the US Treasury's Hardest Hit Fund, it offers help to New Jersey home-owners who may be facing foreclosure as a direct result of unemployment or underemployment.

Information Source: NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development