Maine Employment Security Law

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Unemployment Compensation

This poster is designed to notify individuals of their rights regarding the filing of claims for unemployment benefits. It does not have the force or effect of law. For more information, call 1-800-593-7660 toll free.

Rules Governing The Administration of the Employment Security Law states every employer shall post and maintain such notices to its workers.

This poster is available online at no charge and may be copied: https://www.maine.gov/labor/posters/

Full- and Part-Time Workers

How to file a claim for unemployment benefits
All new and reactivated claims for unemployment benefits are filed either online, telephone or by mail. **Do not delay in filing your claim once you are out of work. Claims cannot be backdated.**

When filing, you will need to know your Social Security Number. Also, you should have the names and addresses of all employers for whom you worked, and your dates of employment in the last 18 months.

To file online: www.maine.gov/reemployme
This is the fastest, easiest way to file.

To file by phone: 1-800-593-7660
TTY Users Call Maine Relay 711.

All individuals filing for Unemployment Insurance benefits are required by law to be registered with the Maine JobLink. Visit **www.mainecareercenter.gov** to access Maine JobLink.

We provide **language interpreter services** in approximately 140 commonly spoken languages. Arrangements will be made to have an interpreter assist you when you call the Unemployment Claims Center.

To claim by mail: In some cases, your employer will give you a claim form. Mail your initial claim form to the Unemployment Claims Center listed below.

Maine Department of Labor
Bureau of Unemployment Compensation

97 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0097

Basic eligibility requirements
Earnings during the base period: The "base period" is a one-year period that includes four calendar quarters. To establish a claim, an individual must have earned two times the annual average weekly wage in Maine in each of two different calendar quarters, and a total of six times the annual average weekly wage in Maine in the whole base period. In most cases, the Department of Labor has your wage information on file. If it is not on file, the Department will take steps to obtain it.

Separation: If you were laid off from your last job due to a lack of work, no additional investigation is required. If you separated from your last job for reasons other than lack of work, you will be scheduled for a fact-finding interview. A determination will then be made regarding your eligibility for benefits.

Weekly requirements: Weekly eligibility requirements include being **able to** work and being **available** for work, making an **active search for work** (unless your work search has been "waived"), not refusing offers of suitable work or referral to suitable job opportunities from the CareerCenters.

Aliens: If you are not a U.S. Citizen, your Social Security Number and/or your Alien Permit number will be checked with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Unemployment benefits are taxable: Unemployment benefits are taxable and have to be reported when you file your income tax forms.

Child support: If you owe child support that you pay to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), up to fifty percent (50%) of your unemployment check may be withheld and sent to DHHS.

Benefits for partial unemployment: An employer shall issue a properly completed partial unemployment claim form to each employee who is customarily employed full-time and who is given less than full-time hours during a week due to lack of work, and who is not separated from that employer.

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs.
Auxiliary aids and services are available to people with disabilities upon request.