

Kentucky Unemployment

When you file for Kentucky Unemployment, your weekly benefit amount is generally awarded between \$39-\$552 per week. If you have earned at least \$6,000 a year, you should qualify for a benefit and if you earned at least \$46,000 a year, you are likely to be awarded the maximum benefit. If you have only lost a portion of your hours, you may still qualify for unemployment based on the time lost. However, in no case may the weekly benefit amount exceed the annually established maximum levels.

Click this link and an unemployment calculator will help estimate your benefit:

[Weekly Unemployment Insurance Benefits Calculator](#)

Frequently Asked Questions regarding KY Unemployment

Q: Will UI payments be increased by \$600 per week and when?

A: Yes. All weekly payments will increase by \$600. This will begin the week of March 29, 2020. Example, if my benefit payment was \$320 per week, it will now be \$920 per week starting on March 29, 2020. You will receive two payments: one for \$320 and one for \$600.

Q: I have worked part-time over the past year and typically would not qualify; can I apply?

A: Yes. Under the CARES Act, those who have worked part-time over the past year will now qualify for UI. You will get the weekly benefit amount for which you qualify plus the \$600. You will receive two payments: one for the weekly benefit amount and one for the weekly \$600.

Q: What is the "Waiting Week?"

A: The waiting week has been temporarily suspended due to the pandemic.

Q: Can a person draw UI if they quit?

A: Assuming the claimant has sufficient wage credits to establish a claim, he or she may be qualified to receive benefits if he or she voluntarily left employment with good cause attributable to the employment, and there are no other eligibility issues present.

Q: Can a person draw UI if they are fired?

A: Assuming the claimant has sufficient wage credits to establish a claim, he or she may be qualified to receive benefits if he or she was discharged for reasons other than misconduct connected with the work, and there are no other eligibility issues present.

Q: How long and how much money can a person draw in UI benefits?

A: The maximum amount of benefits payable to any worker within any benefit year shall be the amount equal to whichever is the lesser of:



(a) 26 times his weekly benefit rate; (due to the pandemic, unemployment may run 39 weeks), or

(b) One-third of his base-period wages, except that no worker's maximum amount shall be less than 15 times his weekly benefit rate.

How to file an Unemployment Claim

Note: For Kentuckians recently made eligible for unemployment insurance (independent contractors, gig-economy workers, childcare workers, etc.), during your application for UI, you may receive messages stating that you are not monetarily invalid or have no claimable wages. Our system is still being updated to accommodate recent eligibility changes and despite these messages, your claim is still being processed for approval. All individuals recently made eligible and who have applied will begin to be notified of their claim status soon.

To File Your Unemployment Insurance Claim, You Will Need The Following:

Personal Information:

- Social Security OR Alien Registration Number
- Date of Birth
- Complete Mailing Address
- Phone Number

Employer Information (For the last 18 months):

- Business/Company Name
- Business/Company Mailing Address
- Business/Company Phone Number
- Dates of Employment
- The reason you are no longer working for EACH employer

Other Information You May Need:

- If you worked in other states: List of states in which you worked.
- If you worked for a Temporary Agency: Name/Address of Temporary Agency.
- If you worked for the Federal Government: Agency Name; Component name; Copy of your Standard Form (SF8, SF50).
- If you were in the US Military: Copy of your DD214 Member 4.
- If you worked through a skilled trade union: Name of contractor

Apply Online

<https://uiclaims.des.ky.gov/ebenefit/eben.htm>

Website hours:

Monday-Friday - 7 AM - 7 PM ET

Sunday - 10 AM - 9 PM ET

In order to serve you better, UI claims will be filed on a specific day of the week based on the first letter of your last name.



Claims by Last Name

Sunday	A-D
Monday	E-H
Tuesday	I-L
Wednesday	M-P
Thursday	Q-U
Friday	V-Z
Friday	<i>If You Missed Your Day</i>

Claiming benefits by phone

Claim your weeks or check your payment by telephone at 1-877-3my-kyui (1-877-369-5984).

By using Voice Response Unit (VRU) and a touchtone phone, you may claim your weeks or request the status of your last week claimed. This service is available on Sunday from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. ET and Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

The system is easy to use. It will take you through the step-by-step process. In most cases, you will get three attempts to enter the correct information. If you are claiming two weeks, the system will take you through the same set of questions twice; once for the first week and again for the second week.

Things to be aware of:

When you file an initial or re-opened claim, you must wait 15 days after you file your claim before calling the VRU System. One phone call certifies both weeks you are claiming. Do not call the system back to claim your weeks again, unless there was a system problem and you were advised by the computer to call back later. When you call more than once a day, it will kick your payment out as a duplicate, you will get a call from your local office to certify your weeks again, and you will delay your benefits.

If during your call via VRU, the system tells you to report to your local office, you must report as instructed before the weeks can be paid. Calling the system again will not issue a payment.

Don't use a cordless or cellular telephone. The system may not recognize the tone.

Answers to all questions must be entered by you and must be truthful. Falsification is punishable by fines and/or imprisonment under krs.341.990.

If you hang up the phone before the system tells you to, your claim will not process. Follow the system's instructions very carefully.

Click this link for more information:

[How Do I Upload A Document\(s\) to My Profile?](#)