WE ARE YOUR DOL



Unemployment Insurance Reference Guide

	Reference			
New York State DOL Website	Department of Labor WebpageAccess online servicesView Claimant Handbook in	File a claim	s – sign in with your NY.gov ID n kly benefits/reopen claim	
www.labor.ny.gov	 17 languages Get general information on UI Benefits Use JobZone to look for work and record your work search activities See UI Warnings & Advisories Ask questions using Perkins the UI 	 Update address & phone number Choose or change payment option (Direct Deposit/Direct Payment Card) View benefit payment records Download duplicate Form 1099G Follow instructions online to create your NY.gov ID 		
To Create or Use an NY.gov ID	 Bot Go to www.labor.ny.gov/signin Need Help? Call (800) 833-3000 fro speak to a representative. 	m 8:30 am to 4:30	pm, Monday-Friday. Press Option 2 to	
Telephone Claims Center (TCC) Numbers	(888) 209-8124 TTY/TTD users: Call a relay operator at (800) 662-1220 and ask the operator to call (888) 783-1370.			
Hours: Monday – Friday 8 am – 5 pm	 Video Relay Service users: If you use a Video Relay System or another type of relay service, contact your relay operator and ask the relay operator to call (888) 783-1370. Secure email: Sign in at www.labor.ny.gov/signin and click on the envelope icon at the upper right of your Account Overview page. 			
	• General fax number: (518) 457-730	00 Reco	ommend calling later in the week	
To Apply for Benefits (file a claim)	You can file a claim: Online at: www.labor.ny.gov/sign Telephone: Call our Telephone Cl	<u>in</u>	Call M-F 8am-5pm on the day that corresponds to the first letter of your last name: Mon = A-F Tues = G-N Wed = O-Z	
	(888) 209-8124 (Monday-Friday 8 Translation services are available		Thur & Fri = if you missed your filing day	
To file a claim you will need:	 Your Social Security number Your mailing address & zip code Telephone number where we can reach you during business hours processing NYS driver license or motor vehicle 	all of yo Any pay past 18 i	address, zip code & phone number for ur employers in the last 18 months roll documents from employers in the months to help in the claims ary Service: A copy of your most	
	 recent card number Your alien registration number (if n US citizen and have a card) 	separation form DD214 (Member 4) if not • For Federal Employment: A copy of your SF8 and SF50		
To Claim Weekly Benefits	Online: Go to www.labor.ny.gov/signin Telephone: Use our Tel-Service automated phone system, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.			
Language Services	The TCC has English, Spanish and Ch more than 100 languages. Claimant Ha Insurance Claim" leaflet are available i	ninese speaking st andbooks and the n – English – Spa	aff and offers translation services for	
Services for the Hearing Impaired	 TTY/TTD users: Call a relay operat (888) 783-1370. Video Relay Service users: If you 		,	
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service, contact your relay operator and ask the relay operator to call (888) 783-1370.				
Braille Claimant Handbook: Call the Division of Equal Opportunity Development at (518) 457-1984 for a copy.				
 In order to receive benefits you must: Have lost employment through no fault of your own Have enough prior earnings from employment to establish a claim Be ready, willing and able to work and Be actively seeking work and keep a record (online or written) of your efforts for each week you claim benefits 				
Your benefit rate is how much money you will receive in UI Benefits each week. We mail you a Monetary Benefit Determination after you file your claim. It will tell you if you have enough wages to qualify for benefits and if so, what your weekly benefit rate will be. It will tell you if you do not have enough wages to qualify for benefits. It is not a decision on your eligibility for UI benefits. It shows whether you have enough earnings to qualify.				
 To establish a weekly benefit rate you must meet all three of the following: You must have worked and been paid wages in jobs covered by Unemployment Insurance two calendar quarters. For claims filed in 2024, you must have been paid at least \$3,300 in wages in one of the calendar quarters (this amount is an increase from \$3,100 for claims filed in 2023). The total wages paid to you must be at least 1.5 times the amount paid to you in your high quarter. Your high quarter is the quarter of your base period in which you were paid the most money. Exception: If your high quarter wages were \$11,088 or more, you must have been paid at least \$5,544 (half of \$11,088) total in the other three quarters of your base period. 				
If you were paid wages in all four quarters of your base period and your high quarter wages are: • More than \$3,575: Your benefit amount is your high quarter wages divided by 26. If this calculation is less than \$143, your benefit rate is \$143. • Example 1: Your high quarter wages are \$4,030. Your weekly benefit amount is \$155 (\$4,030 ÷ 26 = \$155). • Example 2: Your high quarter wages are \$3,600. This results in a benefit rate of \$138.46 (\$3,600 ÷ 26 = \$138.46). Since this is less than \$143, your benefit amount is \$143.				
 \$3,575 or less: Your benefit amount is your high quarter wages divided by 25. Example: Your high quarter wages are \$3,450. Your weekly benefit amount is \$138 (\$3,450 ÷ 25 = \$138). If you were paid wages in only two or three quarters of your base period and your high quarter wages are: More than \$4,000: Your benefit amount is the average wages of your two highest quarter wages, divided by 26. If this calculation is less than \$143, your benefit amount is \$143.				

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Request for Reconsideration	If wages and/or employers are missing from your Monetary Benefit Determination notice you can do one of the following:		
Reconsideration	 Complete and return the Request for Reconsideration (TC 403HR) (We send it with the Monetary Benefit Determination.) You can find it online at: www.labor.ny.gov "Get Unemployment Assistance", "Forms & Publications", under Claimant Forms. 		
	Send us an email (sign into your online services account with your NY.gov ID and select "messages").		
	 Call our Telephone Claims Center (see page 1). 		
	We must receive your Request for Reconsideration form within 30 calendar days from the date		
	mailed as shown on the Monetary Benefit Determination.		
Length of Claim	A claim lasts one year (benefit year). You can receive 26 full weeks of benefits.		
What if I work part time?	If you work part-time and earn less than the maximum benefit rate, you may receive partial benefits as follows:		
	 0 − 10 hours of work = your full weekly benefit rate 		
	 11 − 16 hours of work = ¾ of your full weekly benefit rate 		
	• $17 - 21$ hours of work = $\frac{1}{2}$ of your full weekly benefit rate		
	• $22 - 30$ hours of work = $\frac{1}{4}$ of your full weekly benefit rate		
	31 or more hours of work = No benefits due		
How do I claim	To claim weekly benefits:		
weekly benefits?	 Go online at <u>www.labor.ny.gov/signin</u> (You will need a NY.GOV ID to sign up for an online account). 		
	By phone, call Tel-Service toll-free at (888) 581-5812.		
	 For TTY/TDD users, call a relay operator at (800) 662-1220 and ask the operator to call (888) 783-1370. 		
	 By Video Relay Service users, contact your relay operator and ask them to call (888) 783-1370. 		
	The first full week of your Unemployment Insurance Claim is an unpaid waiting week. You cannot be paid any benefits for this waiting period by law. An unemployment week runs from Monday to Sunday. You should claim weekly benefits for the previous week on the last day of that week (Sunday) through the following Saturday. Any certification made on a Sunday is for the week ending that day.		
Payment Options	If you applied:		
	Online - you can receive your benefits by direct deposit or by debit card		
	Over the phone - you will receive your benefits via debit card		
Debit Card	 It allows you to withdraw your benefits from an ATM (Automated Teller Machine) and make purchases wherever MasterCard is accepted 		
	Only the Department of Labor can deposit money into the debit card account		
	You will be mailed a Way2Go debit card automatically unless you sign up for direct deposit.		
	For questions call Way2Go Customer Service at (844) 649-9845.		
Direct Deposit	To register for direct deposit, you will need your bank routing number and your checking account number. You can register for direct deposit or change your banking information online:		
	• 7:30 am - 7:30 pm Monday - Thursday		
	• 7:30 am - 5:00 pm Friday		
	12:01 am Saturday - 7:00 pm Sunday		
How to Check Payment History	 You can check the status of your payment on our website at www.labor.ny.gov/signin. On your Account Overview page, click on "Unemployment Services," then "View Payment History." 		
	 You can call our Tel-Service automated telephone service at: (888) 581-5812 		
	TTY/TDD users: Call a relay operator at (800) 662-1220 and ask the operator to call		
	(888) 783-1370Video Relay Service users have your relay operator call (888) 783-1370		
	video relay octivide decis have your relay operator can (000) 700-1070		
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Change Your	Notify us if your address/phone number changes:			
Address or	On our website at www.labor.ny.gov/signin			
Phone Number				
	Call the TCC at (888) 209-8124 selection menu option for "PIN or Address Changes"			
	Notify Way2Go Customer Service at (844) 649-9845			
Hearing Process	To request a hearing online at www.labor.ny.gov/signin . Sign into your account and click on the envelope icon at the upper right of your Account Overview page. Then from the drop-down choices select: "Hearings and Appeals" as the first subject line "I want to request a hearing" as the second line 			
	• I want to request a hearing as the second line			
	To request a hearing via mail write to:			
	NYS Department of Labor * Include the last 4 digits of your social security number			
	PO Box 15131 * Mail your letter no later than 30 days from the date of			
	,	the determination		
Request an Appeal	To request an appeal write to:	Hearing Section Offices:		
of an	Unemployment Insurance Appeal Board	For questions about a hearing or		
Administrative Law	PO Box 15126	appeal, call 518-402-0205.		
Judge's Decision	Albany, NY 12212-5126			
	Or Fax it to: (518) 402-6208			
	*Mail your letter no later than 20 days from the date of the ALJ's decision.			
599 Training	Training programs must meet certain requirements to be approved for the 599 Program.			
Program	Call the 599 Training Program Central Review Unit at: (518) 402-0189.			
	 You must apply for the 599 Program within the first 13 weeks of your claim in order to receive the maximum benefits. Approval will depend on your eligibility for the 599 program and available funds. 			
	Contact your local New York State Career Center to help you find a program in your area.			
	To find your closest NYS Career Center go to www.labor.ny.gov or call the Department of			
	Labor Contact Center at (888) 4-NYSDOL ((888) 469-7365) between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm.			
UI Fraud	Unemployment Insurance Fraud Hotline			
	• Call (888) 598-2077			
	Online at: www.labor.ny.gov			
	Look for the Report Fraud flag at the bottom of the page			
	You do not need to give your name when you report fraud.			

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Understanding Your "Base Period"

Your weekly Unemployment Insurance benefit payment amount depends on how much you were paid during a "base period." A base period represents one year of your work and wages (four calendar quarters). Calendar quarters are three-month blocks of time shown in the chart below. Wages earned in your base period are used to calculate your benefit rate. Your benefit rate is the amount of money you receive if you are eligible for a full week of Unemployment Insurance benefits.

There are two types of base periods shown in the chart below. The **Basic Base Period** is the **first four** of the **last five** completed calendar quarters before the quarter in which you file for benefits. If you have enough wages in your Basic Base Period, we use it when we calculate your benefit payment.

If you do not have enough wages in your Basic Base Period, we use your **Alternate Base Period** to calculate your benefit payment. The Alternate Base Period is the last four completed calendar quarters before the quarter in which you file for benefits. **Important: If you have enough wages in your Basic Base Period, we do not automatically check to see if your benefit rate would be higher if your Alternate Base Period is used instead.** If you think your benefit payment would be higher using your Alternate Base Period, you can ask us to use your Alternate Base Period to calculate your benefit amount. However, if you choose to use the Alternate Quarter wages for your current claim, you cannot use these wages again in the future. This may affect your ability to qualify for a future claim.

For all base periods, the quarter in which you file for benefits does not count as part of your base period. This means that wages earned during the quarter you filed will not be used to calculate your benefit rate.

How Base Period Works (Example only, Your actual quarters may differ from those shown.)

Previous Year				Current Year		
1 st Quarter January 1 - March 31	2nd Quarter April 1 - June 30	3rd Quarter July 1 - September 30	4 th Quarter October 1 - December 31	5th Quarter January 1 - March 31	Quarter you	
Basic Base Period Wages paid to you during these four quarters make up your Basic Base Period.					filed for benefits April 1 -	
Alternate Base Period Wages paid to you during these four quarters make up your Alternate Base Period.				June 30		

Example:

5/2 = Last day of work

5/5 = Claim effective date – A claim is effective the Monday of the week the claim was filed.

An unemployment week is a Monday through Sunday period. Benefit credit for the unpaid waiting period may be claimed as early as the following Wednesday. Remaining weeks may be claimed as early as the Sunday the unemployment week ends.

The Month of May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			May 1	Last Day of Work	3	4
Claim Effective Date	6 Waiting	7 Claim filed	8 Waiting Period	Waiting Period	10 Waiting	11 Waiting

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