Claimant
Guide for Completing Your Extended Benefits Application
I. Overview

Extended Benefits is a federal unemployment program implemented and administered by the state of Florida. Extended Benefits authorizes up to an additional six weeks of unemployment benefits to eligible individuals who have exhausted other available benefit programs during periods of high unemployment.

By law, Extended Benefits triggered to an “on” status June 7, 2020. DEO was informed that Florida triggered “off” Extended Benefits the week ending November 7, 2020. As of November 8, 2020, Extended Benefits is no longer available.

Click here to review all of the Florida Reemployment Assistance benefit programs.

Claimants who exhausted their Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits, which happens after exhausting state Reemployment Assistance benefits, during the Extended Benefits period may be eligible for up to six weeks of Extended Benefits. The Extended Benefits period is June 7, 2020 through November 7, 2020. Extended Benefits is payable only for weeks of unemployment during the Extended Benefits period.

If you are eligible for Extended Benefits, your weekly benefit amount will be the same as the weekly benefit amount you received for your state Reemployment Assistance claim, which should be the same amount received for PEUC. The benefits will apply retroactively, which means benefits will be paid for weeks of unemployment during the Extended Benefits period, which is June 7, 2020 through November 7, 2020.

For additional questions and assistance completing your application for Extended Benefits, please contact the Reemployment Assistance Customer Service Center at 1-833-FL-APPLY (833-352-7759). An equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Voice telephone numbers may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711.
II. Guide for Completing Extended Benefits Application

The Extended Benefits application is similar to the state Reemployment Assistance application, but there are some differences. The Extended Benefits application will ask for most of the information you provided when you completed your state Reemployment Assistance application.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** When completing the Extended Benefits application, please remember to answer questions how you would have answered them for the weeks you were eligible during the Extended Benefits period (June 7, 2020 - November 7, 2020).

After submitting your Extended Benefits application, you may have the option to request benefit payments for the weeks in which you were eligible to receive Extended Benefits. This guide will cover the application process and requesting benefit payment for Extended Benefits.

**Steps to Apply:**

1- Visit [FloridaJobs.org](http://FloridaJobs.org) and select “Claimants” in the top right-hand corner or click here to access the CONNECT homepage.

2- Read the Claimant Warning Notice and select “I acknowledge I have read the above.” And then click “Next.”
3- Enter your Social Security Number or Claimant ID and PIN. Then select “Log-in”.

4- Once you have successfully logged-in to your CONNECT account, you will notice a link on the left side of your CONNECT homepage to apply for Extended Benefits. Select the link “Apply for Extended Benefits.” There is also a link to “Apply for Extended Benefits” on the claimant homepage.
5- You will need to read and complete the Reemployment Assistance Fraud Acknowledgment. Check the acknowledgement box and click “Next.”

Reemployment Assistance Fraud Acknowledgment

WHAT IS REEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE FRAUD?

Reemployment Assistance fraud is a 3rd degree felony

HOW IS FRAUD COMMITTED?

- Making false statements that may alter or increase benefits
- Withholding information on that may alter or increase benefits
- Failing to report work in order to obtain or increase benefits
- Failing to report earnings in order to obtain or increase benefits

What happens if I commit fraud?

If you commit Reemployment Assistance fraud, you face:

- Up to five years in prison per offense
- Up to $5,000 fine per offense
- A penalty equal to 15% of the amount overpaid
- Loss of future reemployment benefits
- Repayment of all benefits to which you were not entitled

How can I avoid committing fraud?

1. Report All Earnings

   - Federal and state law requires that you report all earnings before taxes are deducted, including wages earned from self-employment, while claiming Reemployment Assistance benefits
   - All earnings must be reported in the week between Sunday and Saturday that you earned them, even if you have not been paid

2. Report All Work

   - Federal and state law require that you report all work, including self-employment, while claiming Reemployment Assistance
   - All work must be reported in the week between Sunday and Saturday that you worked, even if you have not been paid

How do I report my earnings correctly?

- Keep track of the total hours you work each calendar week, Sunday through Saturday
- Your hourly rate of pay times the total hours worked equals your gross pay, which is the amount you must report
- You must report ALL earnings for the week you do the work, not the week you are paid

☐ I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above statements regarding Reemployment Assistance Fraud and wish to continue filing my claim
6- Next, you will answer questions on the **Extended Benefits – Initial Questions** page. Read each question carefully and be sure to complete all required questions. Then click “Next.”

*NOTE – Please answer questions how you would have answered them for weeks during the Extended Benefits period, June 7, 2020 through November 7, 2020.*
7a- After you select next, you need to read the **Payment and Tax Withholding** selections that you already have established on your Reemployment Assistance claim. Check each authorization box to continue with your existing selections. If you would like to change either selection, you may do so in your CONNECT account after submitting the Extended Benefits application.

7b- The rest of the page covers “**Certifications.**” Please read each item carefully and check each required box in order to continue. Once completed click, “Submit.”

Please note that Governor DeSantis has waived the work registration requirement for individuals filing an application for Reemployment Assistance benefits from March 15, 2020 until February 27, 2021. You will not be penalized for not registering in Employ Florida if your claim for Reemployment Assistance is filed between March 15, 2020 and February 27, 2021.
8- Next is the “Claim Confirmation” page. You have completed the Extended Benefits application. Please click the “Exit” button and you will be returned to your CONNECT homepage.
III. Steps to Request Benefit Payment

9- You will now see a “Request Benefit Payment” link on the left-hand side of your CONNECT homepage. In the “Messages” section of this page, a list of weeks you are eligible for will be available for you to request benefit payments. Click the “Request Benefit Payment” link to begin. Please note, there could be up to an additional six weeks of benefits to request.

10- Next, you will be asked to read and acknowledge the Reemployment Assistance Fraud warning notice. Check the acknowledgement box and click “Next.”
11a- Under the “Initial Questions” section, answer the required questions for the week listed. In this example, the benefit payment request is for the week ending October 10, 2020. Please remember to answer questions how you would have answered them for the week identified during the Extended Benefits period. The work search requirement has been waived for weeks beginning March 15, 2020, to weeks ending February 27, 2021. This means that for the weeks between this timeframe, you are not required to report five work search contacts; however, you will still be asked if you looked for work when you request your benefits. You may respond by clicking “yes” or “no.” You may click “no,” and this response will not delay or prevent you from receiving your benefit payment.

Continue to step 11b and 11c.
11b- Under “Job Contact Details” section enter your Work Search Record or CareerSource Florida visit by clicking “Add.”

11b- You will enter your first work search record or select “Type of Contact” to change to Florida CareerSource Center visit. Once all information has been entered click “Save.”
11b- You will now be taken back to the previous screen and the first work search record will be listed. Click “Add” to enter your next work search record and continue this process until all work searches have been added.

11c- “Certifications” section, read each sentence carefully and check the “I agree” box. Then click “Submit.”

12- Repeat Steps 10 and 11 a-c until all available weeks have been claimed.
IV. Next Steps

After you complete your Extended Benefits application and request benefit payments for the weeks available, you will be prompted to apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA). **It is important that you review the application for PUA and determine if you may be eligible.** Click here for information about applying for PUA and frequently asked questions.

The Department is working diligently to ensure each eligible claimant receives the benefits they are owed. Click here to review all of the Florida Reemployment Assistance benefit programs. If you have any questions, please visit FloridaJobs.org to review Frequently Asked Questions or call our Reemployment Assistance Customer Service Center at 1-833-FL-APPLY (1-833-352-7759). Voice telephone numbers may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711.