
Extended Benefits FAQs



Q: What is Extended Benefits?

A: 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 benefits to eligible individuals who have exhausted other available benefit programs during periods of high unemployment.

Due to the drastic increase in the Florida unemployment rate in early 2020, by law Extended Benefits was triggered to an “on” status on June 7, 2020, for the first time since 2009. The Department 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.

Q: How long is Extended Benefits available?

A: The Department was notified by the U.S. Department of Labor that due to a 13-week average decrease in new individuals continuing to claim Reemployment Assistance benefits in Florida, Extended Benefits ended on November 7. **This means that only claimants who have exhausted their Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits between June 7, 2020, and November 7, 2020, may be eligible for Extended Benefits. However, Extended Benefits cannot be paid for weeks of unemployment after November 7, 2020.**

Q: Who is eligible for Extended Benefits?

A: Claimants who exhausted their Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits, which happens after exhausting 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.

Q: What amount will claimants receive on Extended Benefits?

A: If a claimant is eligible for Extended Benefits, their weekly benefit amount will be the same as the weekly benefit amount received for their most recent 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.

Q: What if I exhaust my Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation after November 7th?

A: Claimants who exhaust their Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits after November 7, 2020, will not be eligible for Extended Benefits. They will however receive the opportunity to apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. Individuals should review the application for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and may apply to determine if they are eligible for benefits.

Q: What happens if I was receiving Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) During the Extended Benefits Period?

A: Federal law requires claimants to exhaust PEUC and Extended Benefits before applying for PUA. If an individual exhausted their PEUC benefits and applied for and received PUA benefits during the Extended Benefits period, the individual is required to submit an application for Extended Benefits. The individual will not receive additional benefits nor will the individual have to request benefit payment for these weeks. This is because the individual previously requested and received benefit payment for the weeks that were in the Extended Benefits period. After the individual submits the Extended Benefits application, they will see that certain weeks requested during the Extended Benefits period will now show a program category in the weekly benefit benefits details screen of Extended Benefits instead of PUA.

Q: What Reemployment Assistance programs are available, and when do could I be eligible for each program?

A: Click [here](#) to review all of the Florida Reemployment Assistance benefit programs and when they became available to Floridians.

Q: What happens after I exhaust all Reemployment Assistance benefit programs?

A: As individuals exhaust all of the available Reemployment Assistance benefit programs, the Department is working to point them to other local, state and federal resources available.

For general information about Reemployment Assistance, visit [FloridaJobs.org](https://www.floridajobs.org) or call 1-833-FL-APPLY (1-833-352-7759). Phone hours: Mon. through Fri. 7:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.