RAAC has compiled a list of resources about changes in the law concerning Florida reemployment assistance benefits and new unemployment benefits implemented as part of the federal CARES Act in response to COVID-19.

**FLORIDA REEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

DEO’s [Reemployment Assistance Resource Guide – COVID-19](#)


**DEO Emergency Order 20-016** (temporarily suspending the one week waiting period in §443.091(f), Fla. Stat., from March 29, 2020 and for the duration of the public health emergency declaration under Executive Order No. 20-52).

**DEO Emergency Rule 73BER20-1** (providing for a temporary, emergency process through which an employer may submit mass claim filings on behalf of its employees effective April 20, 2020 through the earlier of three events specified in the rule).

**Executive Order No. 20-104** (temporarily suspending the requirement of biweekly reporting by claimants of “actively seeking work” under §443.111(1)(b), Fla. Stat., as necessary, from April 16, 2020 and for the duration of the public health emergency declaration under Executive Order No. 20-52).

**FEDERAL CARES ACT UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

**LEGISLATION**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) provided additional funding support for regular unemployment benefits and created three new programs of benefits in response to COVID-19:
• Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), a temporary $600 per week supplement to other unemployment benefits.

• Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Assistance (PEUC), providing for an additional 13 weeks of benefits for individuals who have exhausted state reemployment assistance.

• Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), providing temporary unemployment benefits to individuals not traditionally eligible for reemployment assistance benefits, and to individuals who have exhausted other benefits under certain circumstances.

Many of the benefits are 100% federally funded, including the waived wait week for regular reemployment assistance benefits, FPUC, PEUC, and PUA. Further, the CARES Act temporarily provides to reimbursing employers partial reimbursement (generally 50%) of payments they make into the unemployment trust fund.

Employers should also be aware that the CARES Act provides for temporary 100% financing of benefit costs under a Short-Time Compensation (STC) plan. More information about STC can be found here. Additionally, the CARES Act provides many other types of employer relief outside of the unemployment program.

To read the legislation, click here.

U.S. DEPT OF LABOR REGULATORY GUIDANCE

USDOL has a dedicated webpage for the unemployment insurance program response to COVID-19, including a listing of recent CARES Act guidance in the form of Unemployment Insurance Program Letters (UIPLs). UIPLs are formal guidance from USDOL to the states regarding interpretation of federal unemployment insurance legislation. USDOL has advised state unemployment programs that it anticipates issuing additional UIPLs on a variety of CARES Act topics.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For information about How to Apply for benefits, click here.

For information about your claim for benefits, click here for DEO’s contact information.

For information about an appeal to RAAC, click here.