

Important Facts About Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA):

- The effective date of a DUA claim is the Sunday **after** the disaster occurred. No DUA payments will be issued for time lost prior to the DUA effective date.
- If you qualify for regular unemployment benefits you must serve a waiting week, which is the very first week of your claim and is not payable. As a result your first check will normally be for only one week.
- Regular unemployment benefits and disaster assistance payments are paid for calendar weeks, not by the day. You will not be entitled to benefits for any week in which you worked the majority of your normal, customary work week **or** in which your gross earnings, for the time worked that week, are more than the weekly unemployment amount assigned to your claim.
- At the time the disaster occurred, you must have lived, worked or have been scheduled to work in a county declared a federal disaster area **or** you must have been prevented from reaching your work location by damage or destruction in a county declared to be a disaster area.
- This work must have been your primary source of income.
- You would not normally qualify for unemployment benefits if you missed work due to damage to your personal property, even if the damage occurred during the disaster, unless you have a home based business.
- Following are two of the most common reasons for being unemployed that meet the federal government's definition of what it means to be unemployed due directly to the disaster.
 1. Your place of business or equipment sustained physical damage or destruction, so that the work or services could not be performed.
 2. You cannot work because you were injured during the disaster and as a direct result of the disaster.
- If you are not eligible for regular unemployment you may be required to provide proof of earnings for the prior tax year.
- You may be required to provide proof that you were working at the time of the disaster.
- Within ten days of filing your claim you will receive information on how to proceed. If you do not receive this correspondence please call 1-800-204-2418 and choose option 2 to speak to a customer service representative.

HOW TO FILE

Applications for DUA may be filed online at www.floridajobs.org. UC Hotline hours of operation can be found [here](#).