



# Maryland Unemployment & COVID Layoffs

If you're laid off or making less than 50% of what you normally do, you may be eligible for unemployment and should file ASAP.

Beginning April 24, 2020: If you have insufficient work history, if you've exhausted your 26 weeks of benefits since 7/1/19, or if you're self-employed/an independent contractor/a gig worker, you can apply & will receive benefits retroactive to your earliest date of eligibility.

## STEP 1: FILE YOUR INITIAL CLAIM

**PHONE:** 877-293-4125 or 410-853-1600 (Mon. - Fri. 7am-6pm & Sat. 8am - 2pm)  
The lines are busy, keep trying!

**WEBSITE:** <https://secure-2.dllr.state.md.us/NetClaims/Welcome.aspx> If you make a mistake or have an issue, you can't revise your claim online. Call the number listed above. If applying online, save your confirmation number & print/take a screenshot of the summary of your claim.

## TIPS FOR CLAIM QUESTIONS:

Answer ALL Questions Truthfully!

"Are you a member in good standing of a union and get work through a hiring hall?"

- Answer NO to this question, since Local 7 does NOT run a hiring hall

(unless you are also a member of another union that does run a hiring hall, then answer truthfully)

What was your "Last Day of Work"?

- List the last day that you actually worked

"Why Aren't You Currently Working for this Employer?"

- If you're laid off due to Corona closings/slowdowns, select the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> option:

→ OPTION 1: "Temporary Layoff (10 weeks or less) or temporary reduction in hours"

- Select this option if your employer gave you a specific return to work date that is in 10 weeks or less

→ OPTION 2: "Lack of Work, Reduction in Force, Company Close, Job Ended"

- Select this option if you DO NOT have a specific return to work date & you're on an indefinite layoff or if your hours have been reduced indefinitely

Need to appeal your claim? Visit <https://www.dllr.state.md.us/uiappeals/>

## STEP 2: REQUEST YOUR PAYMENT EVERY WEEK!

You must file a weekly claim certification each week that you are unemployed for you to receive your benefits! The workweek for unemployment runs each SUNDAY through SATURDAY at midnight. You can file your claim certification for the previous week between each SUNDAY at 12:01am through Friday at 5pm. File online or by phone:

**Webcert:** <https://secure-2.dllr.state.md.us/WebCert/Logon.aspx>

**Telecert:** Bmore Area/Out-of-State: 410-949-0022 Other parts of MD: 1-800-827-4839

**Do NOT wait to get letters in the mail before you complete your weekly Web/Telecert.** The sooner you do the Web/Telecert each week, the sooner you'll get your payments.

**PIN:** The first time you do a Web/Telecert, you'll create a pin. **SAVE YOUR PIN!**

## Web/Telecert Questions

1 "Were you able and available to work in your occupation without restrictions?"

Answer YES (or press 1 if filing by phone). This answer will avoid any unnecessary issues with your weekly claim certification and potential delay of your benefit payment.

2 "Did you attend school or training during the week?"

Answer NO (or press 2 if filing by phone) if you DID NOT attend school/training or answer YES (or press 1 if filing by phone) if you DID attend school/training.

3 "Did you actively look for work during the week?"

The Secretary of Labor ordered a temporary exemption to the work search requirement for 10 weeks from the first week you filed your Web/Telecert. Answer YES (or press 1 if filing by phone) if you DID look for work or answer NO (or press 2 if filing by phone) if you DID NOT look for work. **Even if you answer NO, you will NOT be denied your benefit payment.**

4 "Did you work or earn money during the week?"

Answer YES (or press 1 if filing by phone) if you DID work or earn money during the week or select NO (or press 2 if filing by phone) if you DID NOT work or earn money during the week. *If the answer is YES, you will be asked to report the amount of your earnings. Report ALL gross earnings in the week you earn them, even if you haven't received payment. "Gross earnings" is the total income you earned before any taxes or adjustments were taken out.*

**BENEFIT PAYMENT INFO:** If your application is approved, you'll receive a Debit Card from Bank of America. It will arrive in a white envelope with the Maryland logo. Activate your card as soon as you receive it. Receipt of the card means that your initial payments are available. You will also receive a letter showing the "weekly benefit amount" you are eligible to receive. Carefully read all letters you receive & respond if needed.

## Need help or more info?

MD Unemployment: <http://www.labor.maryland.gov/employment/unemployment.shtml>

Local 7: 443-438-5607 \* [local7@unitehere.org](mailto:local7@unitehere.org) \* [www.facebook.com/UniteHereLocal7](http://www.facebook.com/UniteHereLocal7)