

## 12/23/20 Unemployment Update

Here's what we know about unemployment.

1. Anyone with an extension of their original unemployment expires on 12/26/2020 from the CARES Act. This applies to both monetary and weeks. Everyone is currently getting this notice.  
**The benefit year end (BYE) date is approaching on your unemployment insurance claim. Your BYE date is 12/26/2020. If you are still unemployed, a new claim will need to be filed after this date.**
2. Two extensions was the max extensions that could be applied for under the CARES Act. Louisiana offers 26 weeks to start and two 13 week extensions were possible. If you have had two extensions, you get a monetarily ineligible letter when applying for the third extension.
3. There is a 14 day waiting period before they will release unemployment. Due to all the fraud, it also takes 21 days before they start releasing payments.
4. You **MUST** upload your Driver's License and Social Security Card to the Louisiana website. They are not processing claims without both those documents, no matter what their instructions may say. Please use these [instructions](#) to upload your documents. The link they are sending out does not always seem to work. You can also look at your documents on the site to verify they are loaded.
5. If your last day was 12/22, then you should apply in the following week when you do not have work. 12/27 – 1/2. Be sure to get it filed before that next Saturday. Remember they are always looking at the week before for filing your weekly certification. Need instructions to refile. Those are [here](#). If your last day was 12/18, get it filed this week by 12/26.

6. You can still file a weekly certification next week to report week ending 12/26/2020.

Here's what we DON'T know about unemployment.

1. The new bill – THAT HAS NOT BEEN SIGNED – allows for a 16 week extension of unemployment that would begin 12/27/2020. Until the bill is signed, the states cannot put the process in place to extend expired or exhausted filings past 12/26. We do not know what that is going to look like. When we know, we will let you know.
2. The new bill – THAT HAS NOT BEEN SIGNED – offers an additional \$300 per week on unemployment. It is believed that it begins as of 12/27/2020 so it would be tacked onto the 1/2/2020 payment and would be in place moving forward.
3. The new bill – THAT HAS NOT BEEN SIGNED – offers a \$600 stimulus check. The IRS is stating they should be able to process these by mid to late January. If you received a \$1200 payment, you will probably qualify for this one, but it will be based on your 2019 tax return that should now be filed. So if you made more in 2019 than 2018, you might not qualify. They will do the same direct deposit that they did before. When the bill is signed and official statements come out for the process, we will share the information.
4. We do not know how long it will take the states to implement this into their systems. Don't clog up their system by filing too early.

Our contact at LWC will be back in on Monday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. Officially I will be on vacation all next week, but as soon as they send information we will get it out to you.

IATSE National Benefits Fund – Open Enrollment is now closed. Also, the IATSE NBF offices have had to return to 100%

remote. The only way to contact them is via email. Many links and information are available at [www.iatsenbf.org](http://www.iatsenbf.org)

Happy Holidays, Stay Safe, Wash Your Hands, Social Distance, and Stay Healthy! Virtual Hugs to everyone!