

Executive Summary

Unemployment Compensation (UC) for Individuals Affected by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

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Speaker(s): Gay Gilbert and Michelle Beebe

The Administration is actively working with states to ensure they have the guidance needed about Unemployment Compensation (UC) flexibilities related to COVID-19 in order to assist individuals affected by the disease. The Unemployment Insurance (UI) program requires individuals to be able and available for work and to actively seek work. However, states have significant flexibility in implementing these requirements, as well as in determining the type of work that may be suitable given the individual's circumstances. In short, an individual may be quarantined or otherwise affected by COVID-19 but still eligible for UC, depending on state law. To clarify, UI is not intended to be used as paid sick leave.

This UIPL provides guidance on the following UC issues related to COVID-19:

- a. Determining whether an individual is unemployed;*
- b. Determining if the individual is able to work, available for work, and actively seeking work;*
- c. Examples for assessing UC eligibility;*
- d. Employer charging, with consideration for impact on trust fund solvency;*
- e. Impact of eliminating the waiting week; and*
- f. Promotion of Short-Time Compensation.*

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