



Unemployment Benefits: Types

Regular Unemployment Benefits

Most individuals receiving unemployment benefits receive “regular” unemployment benefits. They may qualify if they worked long enough for an employer that paid unemployment taxes, lost their jobs through no fault of their own, are able and available for work, and actively seek work. These conditions also apply to the following types of unemployment benefits. For more information, please see the “Unemployment Benefits: General Information” fact sheet at jfs.ohio.gov/factsheets/ucregular.pdf.

Seasonal Claim

Individuals who worked for employers whose businesses do not operate year-round may qualify for benefits without having worked the usual minimum number of weeks. However, benefits may be drawn only during the working season, not the off-season. For this purpose, “seasonal employment” does not include work for employers that operate all year but offer temporary work when workloads increase (for example, retailers during the holidays).

School Claim

Individuals who lose their jobs from educational institutions during scheduled school breaks and have a “reasonable assurance” of being employed again in the next school term are unlikely to be eligible for unemployment benefits.

Interstate Claim

Individuals who worked in Ohio during their “base period” (the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters) but now live in another state may file Ohio unemployment claims. Individuals who live in Ohio but worked in another state during their base period should file in the other state.

Combined Wage Claim

Individuals who worked in more than one state during their base period may qualify for unemployment benefits by combining wages from those states. To establish combined wage claims, applicants must apply for benefits in one of the states where the base period wages were reported.

Federal Civilian Employee Claims

Individuals who lost jobs with the federal government through no fault of their own during the last 18 months may qualify for unemployment benefits. When applying, they must provide the SF-8 or SF-50 form provided by the federal employer. The federal employer will be contacted to verify the number of weeks, amount of wages and reason for the work separation.

Ex-Military Personnel Claims

Individuals may qualify for unemployment benefits if they served in active military duty during the last 18 months. They must meet certain federal requirements and provide discharge papers (Form DD-214 member 4 copy).

Disaster Unemployment Assistance

If their unemployment was caused by a federally declared disaster, individuals may be eligible for up to 26 weeks of Disaster Unemployment Assistance. Please see the “Disaster Unemployment Assistance” fact sheet at jfs.ohio.gov/factsheets/DisasterUnemploymentAssistance.stm for more information.

Trade Adjustment Assistance

A variety of reemployment services and income supports may be available to workers who become unemployed or have their hours reduced as a result of increased imports from, or shifts in production to, foreign countries. These services include Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRAs), job search allowances, relocation allowances, training, Health Care Tax Credits (HCTCs), and wage subsidies available through the Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (RTAA) and Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA) programs for older workers. Each benefit has its own eligibility requirements, and claimants must apply for each separately before any service can begin.

For more information about any type of unemployment benefits, go to unemployment.ohio.gov. A list of frequently asked questions is available at jfs.ohio.gov/unemp_comp_faq.