

## **Unemployment Benefits for Quarantined or Sick Workers**

If you cannot work because you are sick or have been exposed to COVID-19, you may be able to file an unemployment claim. If your claim is for exposure and you are not yet sick – you may need to have your exposure validated by a healthcare professional. Unemployment benefits provide short-term benefit payments to workers that are eligible, who have a complete or partial loss of wages due to a non-work-related illness, injury, or pregnancy. Benefit amounts are approximately 60-70 percent of wages and range from \$50-\$1,300 a week, depending on your income.

The Florida Governor's executive order waives the usual one-week unpaid waiting period, so you can collect unemployment benefits for the first week you are out of work. If you are found to be eligible, the unemployment office processes and issues payments within a few weeks of receiving your claim.

## **Unemployment for Caregivers**

If you cannot work because you are the primary caregiver for someone who is sick with COVID-19 or quarantined (certified by a medical professional), then you may be able to file a Paid Family Leave (PFL) claim. Paid Family Leave provides up to a total of six weeks of payments to workers that are eligible and have a full or partial loss of wage income because they need time off from work to care for a seriously ill family member.

Paid Family Leave benefit amounts are approximately 60-70 percent of wages (depending on your total income) and can range from \$50-\$1,300 per week. If you are eligible for this, the unemployment agency processes and issues payments within a few weeks of receiving your claim.

## **Unemployment Due to School Closures**

If your child's school is closed because of the coronavirus, and you have to miss work to take care of them, you may be able to collect for unemployment benefits. Eligibility must be determined – and you will only be considered eligible if you have no options for the care of your child or children and if you are unable to continue working your normal work hours from home or remotely.

## **Unemployment for Reduced Work Hours**

If your employer has reduced the number of hours you can work or shut down completely due to COVID-19, you may be able to file an unemployment claim. Florida unemployment insurance provides benefit payments for partial wage replacement to workers that have lost their job or have had their hours of work reduced, through no fault of their own.

Workers who are unemployed temporarily because of COVID-19 and are expected to return to work with their employer within a few weeks, or some other defined short period of time, are not required to actively seek work each week. However, they must remain available and able and ready to work, or return to work, during their unemployment for each week that benefits are claimed and must meet all other eligibility criteria. Individuals who meet eligibility requirements can receive benefits that range from \$40-\$450 per week.

## Resources Links

### **Brevard County**

<https://www.brevardfl.gov/emergency-event/assistance-programs>

### **Duval County**

<https://www.coj.net/covid19faqs>

### **Hillsborough County**

<https://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/residents/public-safety/emergency-management/stay-safe/getting-help>

### **Lake County**

Located at 3619 Lake Center Drive in Mount Dora, will with an \$85 cost for anyone that wants to be tested. Those who have insurance will pay upfront and be reimbursed later. The site hopes to administer 500 tests a day.

<https://www.lakecountyfl.gov/COVID-19/>

### **Orange County**

[https://www.orangecountyfl.net/EmergencySafety/Coronavirus/Coronavirus-ResidentResources.aspx#.XphrL-\\_sblU](https://www.orangecountyfl.net/EmergencySafety/Coronavirus/Coronavirus-ResidentResources.aspx#.XphrL-_sblU)

### **Pinellas County**

<https://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/covid19/default.htm#assistance>

### **Polk**

<https://www.polk-county.net/covid-19/social-service-resources>

### **Seminole**

<https://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/departments-services/county-managers-office/prepare-seminole/emergencyevent.shtml>

### **Volusia County**

<https://www.volusia.org/services/public-protection/emergency-management/pin/coronavirus/covid19-assistance.shtml>