

Unemployment Aid

Can I get unemployment aid if I cannot work because of the storm?

Maybe. There are 2 kinds of unemployment aid: *regular* unemployment and *disaster* unemployment.

Regular Unemployment

You may qualify for **regular** unemployment if:

- you don't have a job, and
- you are able to work.

You may not qualify if:

- you quit your job without a good reason,
- you were fired for repeated bad behavior after being warned,
- you were fired because you failed a drug test or did something dishonest, or
- you turned down a job without a good reason.

If you are disqualified, you will no longer get unemployment and may not qualify in the future.

How do I apply for regular unemployment?

Go to your local Employment Services Office. Tell them you want to apply for unemployment. You will have to register for work and wait one week.

Disaster Unemployment

You may qualify for **disaster** unemployment if, because of the disaster:

- you lost a job,
- you were injured and cannot work now,
- the job you were about to start no longer exists,
- you can't get to your workplace, or
- you are now the main earner in your family because the previous main earner died.

You may not qualify if you are eligible for regular unemployment assistance.

How do I apply for disaster unemployment?

- Contact your State Unemployment Insurance agency (you may find it at: www.careeronestop.org/localhelp/unemploymentbenefits/unemployment-benefits.aspx)
- You have **30 days** to apply for disaster unemployment after it becomes available in your state

If you were self-employed before the disaster, you will need a copy of your most recent income tax records.

How long can I get unemployment?

You can usually get *regular* unemployment aid for up to **26** weeks.

You can get *disaster* unemployment for up to **26** weeks.

Where can I learn more?

To learn more about disaster unemployment:

- Visit www.nelp.org or www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/24418

To learn more about regular unemployment:

- Call
- Or visit:

Contact us for legal help with storm-related problems:

- Call
- Or visit:

This flyer gives you legal *information*, not legal *advice*. To know how the law applies to you, talk to a lawyer.