



SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPT. OF LABOR
& REGULATION

Reemployment Assistance

March 27, 2020

Reemployment Basics

- Meant to be a temporary, partial wage replacement to help cover necessities (food, housing, etc.)
- Not meant to replace paid leave, such as sick leave or vacation leave

Basics, continued...

- Benefits = approximately 50% of someone's previous average weekly wage, up to the maximum weekly benefit amount of \$414 per week
- Maximum weekly benefit is \$414 per week
 - Related wage scenario: Weekly wage \$818; Annual wage \$42,536
- Minimum wage job assuming full-time hours
 - Related wage scenario: \$9.30 per hour; Weekly wage = \$372. Approximate weekly benefit = \$186

Perspective

- Week ending March 14 = 190 initial claims
- Week ending March 21 = 1,703 initial claims
- Call Center typical staffing = 11
- 25 staff added March 23
- 23 additional phone lines March 26 (now 115)

Eligibility Related to COVID-19

- Those who are quarantined by a medical professional or a government agency,
- Those who are laid off or sent home without pay for an extended period by their employer due to COVID-19 concerns, or
- Those who test positive for COVID-19.

Work search requirements have been waived.

Employers: SIDES e-Response

- Sign up for the State Information Data Exchange System (SIDES)
- Fast and secure (part of process, not entire)
- Once employer signs up, claim notes are emailed not mailed
- SIDES is especially helpful to large volume layoffs
- To sign up:
<https://dlr.sd.gov/ra/businesses/sides.aspx>

Employer Question

- What should we as an employer do when preparing to lay individuals off, but hope they will return?
 - Sign up for SIDES
 - Define layoff as temporary tied to COVID-19
 - Consider requiring staff to use paid leave first
 - Send questions to DLRRADivision@state.sd.us

Employer Question

- What advice should we give employees?
 - File online at raclaims.sd.gov
 - Have Social Security #, Driver's License or State ID, and 18 months' work history
 - Request direct deposit when prompted
 - Don't panic; claims can be backdated
 - Information will be confirmed with employer

Employer Questions

- How much do laid-off workers get with unemployment?
 - Average 50% of weekly wage; Max \$414/week
- Are part-time employees eligible?
 - Possibly; individuals with reduced hours may also be eligible
- Employers hired through a disabilities support center eligible?
 - Guidance will vary by program

Things to Watch

- Federal legislation requires waiting week be waived and employer tax rates not be impacted
- FFCRA – Guidance to be released on April 1
- CARES Act – Passed Senate; House to vote on March 27

Important Resources

- Post/Search for Jobs: sdjobs.org
- File UI online: raclaims.sd.gov
- File UI by phone: 605.626.3179
 - Minimum 1 hour wait time
- Employer questions:
DLRRADivision@state.sd.us



Thank you

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