

Federal Workers and Unemployment Insurance

The Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development administers unemployment insurance benefits for Federal workers in cooperation with the US Department of Labor.

Monetary Eligibility

Your weekly benefit amount is determined by the wages you earned in the base period. For claims filed in April 2011, the base period is the calendar year of 2010. To qualify you must have a minimum of \$2500 in the base period and at least \$250 outside the high quarter.

If you do not meet the minimum requirements, we will look at an alternate base period. For claims filed in April 2011, the alternate base period is April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011.

Federal employers report wages to the Alaska Department of Labor after a claim is filed. **Because your payroll office may be furloughed, you will need to provide proof of earnings during the year 2010 to make your claim eligible.**

Proof of earnings can be your 2010 W-2, Leave & Earnings statements or if those are not available, your most recent Personnel Action form, SF50. We will use these documents to make your claim eligible on a temporary basis; when actual wages are received from your employer, your monetary entitlement will be adjusted.

Claims Filing

A new claim for unemployment insurance benefits is effective with the week it is filed. You may call our Claims Center or use our Internet application to file a claim. Our Internet application is accessed through MyAlaska. <https://myalaska.state.ak.us/home/app>

Contact numbers for the Claim Centers are:

Anchorage area:	907-269-4700
Juneau:	907-465-5552
Fairbanks:	907-451-2871
All other areas:	888-252-2557

Weekly Claims

Benefits are claimed on a bi-weekly filing schedule. You can file for weekly benefits on the Internet application or by calling an IVR system.

The first week you file for is a non-payable 'waiting week' but you must file to receive 'waiting week' credit.

On your weekly claim certifications you must report any work performed during the week and wages you will receive for the work performed. You must report vacation, severance, sick pay. Earnings and these other types of employer paid income are deducted from your weekly benefit amount.

In the 1995-96 furlough, Federal employees were retroactively paid wages for the weeks furloughed. These wages were applied to weeks claimed retroactively establishing overpayment for which the claimant is liable.

Available for work

To be eligible for benefits you must be able and available for full time work, albeit temporary. If you are on furlough due to a Federal government shutdown, we will waive registration with the Alaska Employment Service (Job Service).

Furloughs

If you are furloughed, you may file for unemployment insurance. However if Congress provides for retroactive payment of your wages, you will not be entitled to unemployment insurance for those weeks and you will have to repay any benefits you received.