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Alaska Triggers Extended Unemployment Benefits

JUNEAU, Alaska—Up to 13 weeks of extended unemployment benefits will be available to eligible workers beginning Jan. 25.

The federal measure triggering the additional benefits is based on the total unemployment rate rising above 6.5 percent and the latest three-month average being at least 110 percent of the same three-month period in either of the last two years, said Tom Nelson, director of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Employment Security Division.

The first payable week of extended benefits is the week ending Jan. 31. Individuals who have a benefit claim year ending Jan. 25 or later, and are not eligible for regular unemployment benefits, may be eligible. Eligibility for the extended benefits program is based on an individual's circumstance.

Potentially eligible workers may file a claim online at https://myalaska.state.ak.us/home/app. The Employment Security Division, which administers the Unemployment Insurance program, will also notify potentially eligible workers by mail.