



## **SC Unemployment Related to COVID-19**

South Carolina has provided the following information regarding COVID-19 and Unemployment Insurance Benefits:

### **FACTS**

Employees qualify for unemployment benefits if the Coronavirus (COVID-19) causes employers to shut down operations, lay off employees or reduce employee hours because the individuals are unemployed through no fault of their own. They will not be eligible if they are receiving paid leave.

The employer will NOT be charged. South Carolina law allows for the removal of charges from contributory employers when unemployment benefits are paid as a result of a natural disaster, either declared by the President of the United States or the declaration of emergency by the Governor.

Please see attached FAQ and COVID 19-Related Unemployment Information Insurance Information.

### **EMPLOYER FILED CLAIM**

Employer Filed Claims protect employees, expediate benefits and help reduce fraud. An Employer Filed Claim is a way in which workers who have been laid off or whose hours have been reduced, but are still "job attached" to the employer, can potentially receive Unemployment Insurance benefits to provide monetary support. Being "job attached" to an employer means that an employee and a business both intend that the individual will return to work or increase their hours in the future. The worker has not been permanently separated from employment.

Employer Filed Claims are more convenient and eliminate the step of an employer having to verify a worker's claim. In addition, employers can use an excel spreadsheet or CSV file to upload many employees at once rather one at a time. In addition, for regular UI claims,\* an Employer Filed Claim eliminates the need for the employee to conduct two weekly job searches because both the employer and the worker hope to anticipate that the layoff or reduction in hours is temporary and that they will work together again. However, an individual can be eligible for UI benefits either way.

NOTE: If the business submits an employer filed claim on behalf of their employees, they should notify their employees. The worker will still need to create an account and certify the claim each week.

Please see attached Employer Filed Claims.

### **WEBSITES**

The South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce has a COVID-19 Resource Hub website: <https://dew.sc.gov/covid-hub>

The South Carolina Department of Commerce has a COVID-19 Business Resource Center website with information on financial assistance for small business, insurance and tax information, employment resources and health updates: <https://sccommerce.com/doing-business-here/join-community/emergency-preparedness>