Determination Review Processes



I have not received benefits yet, should I appeal?

First, you should review your claim to determine next steps. If you filed your application prior to April 5, 2020, and you have been deemed ineligible, you will need to file another application for state Reemployment Assistance Benefits because the calendar quarter change effects the base period that is used to determine your weekly benefit amount, and the Department is required to review the wages in the new base period before a Pandemic Unemployment Assistance application can be filed.

If you applied for state benefits April 5, 2020 or after and have been deemed ineligible, you likely need to complete a Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) application. To complete the PUA application, login to CONNECT and check the left column for the "Apply for PUA benefits" link. Click the link to proceed with the PUA application process.

I have received a Determination document that says I am ineligible or disqualified, what do I do?

If you have received an unfavorable written *Notice of Disqualification* or *Wage Transcript and Determination* from the Department regarding your claim and you disagree with the determination, you can file an appeal. For example, you may appeal if the *Wage Transcript and Determination* does not include all of your employment as an employee or reflects inaccurate wage amounts.

If your wages are derived solely from self-employment, you can file an appeal; however, it is not likely to be successful since those wages cannot be considered for state Reemployment Assistance benefits. For more information about services not covered under Florida Reemployment Assistance law, <u>click here</u>. If your separation or unemployment is a direct result of COVID-19, you are encouraged to file for PUA, which does not require you to appeal the monetarily ineligible determination you received for state Reemployment Assistance benefits. Wages from services not covered under Florida Reemployment Assistance are included for establishing monetary eligibility for PUA. To find out more about eligibility for and how to apply for PUA <u>click here</u>.

There are instances where you will receive a Notice of Disqualification that is accurate, so an appeal may not be successful. For example, if you receive a Notice of Disqualification stating you are not able and available to work because you do not have childcare and you are unable to work because you do not have childcare, you may be eligible for PUA if the lack of childcare is due to COVID-19. In this type of situation, you are encouraged to apply for PUA. To find out more about eligibility for and how to apply for PUA click here.

Updated: June 6, 2020

Are other options available before proceeding with an appeal?

If you received a *Wage Transcript and Determination* or message in the CONNECT system that states you are monetarily ineligible and you have wages from employment as an employee, you can request a monetary reconsideration. To request reconsideration of your monetary determination, please <u>click here</u>.

Before submitting your monetary reconsideration request, you should gather documents that show your earnings during the specified base period. This includes your tax return or pay stubs.

Upon review for reconsideration, you may receive a new determination called a "Redetermination." If the Redetermination is not in your favor, you will be able to file an appeal to the Redetermination.

For questions related to the monetary reconsideration or appeals process, you can call 1-833-352-7759.

Updated: June 6, 2020