



Unemployment Insurance Eligibility

House Judiciary

March 12, 2025

Presented by:

Paloma Harbour, Director
Employment and Training Services



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Cathy Muñoz, Commissioner



Monetary Eligibility

Base wage period is the first four quarters of the five quarters preceding the claim

- Minimum base wage \$2,500 = Benefit of \$56 per week
- Every additional \$250 in wages = \$2 in benefits
- Maximum base wage \$42,000 = Benefit of \$370 per week
- Dependent allowance \$24 per, max of three

Number of weeks that can be claimed depends on how the wages are distributed across the base period quarters

- If all of the wages are earned in one quarter, then not eligible for benefits
- Minimum of 16 weeks and maximum of 26 weeks

BASE PERIOD CHART								
Base Period Shaded								
OCT NOV DEC	JAN FEB MAR	APR MAY JUN	JUL AUG SEP	LAG PERIOD Oct-Dec	NEW CLAIM FILED Jan-Mar			
OCT NOV DEC	JAN FEB MAR	APR MAY JUN	JUL AUG SEP	OCT NOV DEC	LAG PERIOD Jan-Mar	NEW CLAIM FILED Apr-Jun		
	JAN FEB MAR	APR MAY JUN	JUL AUG SEP	OCT NOV DEC	JAN FEB MAR	LAG PERIOD Apr-Jun	NEW CLAIM FILED Jul-Sep	
	JAN FEB MAR	APR MAY JUN	JUL AUG SEP	OCT NOV DEC	JAN MAR JUN	APR MAY JUN	LAG PERIOD Jul-Sep	NEW CLAIM FILED Oct-Dec

Non-Monetary Eligibility Requirements

Able and Available for Full-Time Work

- Available means five days per week and customary hours for the occupation
- Able means physically and mentally able to perform the essential duties of the work
- Transportation (vehicle, bus, walking distance, and other methods)
- Actively seeking work based on experience and/or training
- Register for work and post an active resume in AlaskaJobs
- Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) participation, if selected

Separating from Employment

Voluntary Discharge

- Burden is on the employee to establish good cause for leaving
- Also demonstrate attempts made to preserve employment

Benefit Impacts if No Good Cause

- 6 weeks disqualification
- 3 weeks reduction in benefits
- No extended benefits if available

Layoff = No Benefit Impact

Discharged due to Misconduct

- Burden on employer to establish misconduct
- Also demonstrate employee knew expectations and reasonable attempts to correct behavior
- Exception: gross misconduct e.g., theft

Benefit Impacts

- Six-weeks disqualification
- Three-weeks reduction in benefits
- No extended benefits if available
- Felony or theft connected to work = 52-week disqualification

Contacts

Paloma Harbour, DETS Division Director

Email: Paloma.Harbour@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 465-5543

Cathy Muñoz, Commissioner

Email: Commissioner.Labor@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 465-2702

