



What You Need to Know About Unemployment Insurance Benefits and the CARES Act During COVID-19 Outbreak

WHAT IS THE CARES ACT?

The CARES Act is the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which was signed into law March 27, 2020.

WHAT DOES THE CARES ACT DO?

The Act provides enhanced Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) for New Yorkers. Individuals who have been traditionally ineligible for UI benefits (e.g., independent contractors, self-employed workers, etc.) may now be eligible for this benefit under PUA.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Below are links, which give you more information about eligibility and the application process, from the New York State Department of Labor Unemployment Insurance Division (NYSDOL). Please continue to check these links for on-going updates as the NYSDOL continues to implement new regulations and procedures in the coming days and weeks.

<https://labor.ny.gov/ui/cares-act.shtm>

<https://labor.ny.gov/ui/pdfs/pandemic-unemployment-assistance.pdf>

<https://labor.ny.gov/ui/pdfs/ui-covid-faq.pdf>

<https://labor.ny.gov/unemploymentassistance.shtm>

<https://labor.ny.gov/ui/pdfs/self-employed-ui-guide.pdf>

WHO CAN I CONTACT IF I HAVE A QUESTION?

If you need further assistance with UI benefits—or any other employment problem—please call the Workplace Justice intake line at 212-417-3838, which is open Mondays and Tuesdays between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

DISCLAIMER: This fact sheet gives general information for NYC Residents; it is NOT legal advice.

