



Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) Guide

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2. Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 creates a new temporary federal program called Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC). PEUC provides up to 13 additional weeks of benefits to an individual who has exhausted all rights to any regular unemployment compensation and who meets other eligibility requirements of the CARES Act. If you have exhausted your benefits and wish to file a claim for PEUC, you may do so by following the instructions below:

1. Login to **CONNECT**
2. On the left side click the link 'Apply for PEUC Benefits' hyperlink.

The screenshot shows the CONNECT website interface. At the top left is the logo for CONNECT, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. Below the logo are links for 'Change Password' and 'Logoff'. On the left side, there is a navigation menu with the following items: 'Claimant Home', 'Inbox', 'Apply for PEUC Benefits' (highlighted with a red box and a red circle containing the number 2), 'View and Maintain Account Information', and 'Determination, Pending Issue and Decision Summary'. On the right side, there is a 'Claimant Information' section with fields for 'Name:' and 'Effective Date:'. Below this is a blue banner that reads 'IMPORTANT ITEMS THAT NEED YOUR IMMEDIATE A'.

3. Complete the responses in the PEUC – Initial Questions section at the top of the screen.

Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) - Initial Questions

1. Are you filing as a result of COVID-19? Yes No*
2. Are you currently unemployed? Yes No*
3. Have you filed for Florida unemployment insurance within the last 18 months? Yes No*
4. Have you worked in Florida within the last 18 months? Yes No*
5. Have you worked in any other state within the last 18 months? Yes No*
6. Have you worked in Federal civilian employment within the last 18 months? Yes No*
7. Have you served in the Armed Forces within the last 18 months? Yes No*
8. What is the date you last worked ? / / (mm/dd/yyyy)
9. Have you received or will you receive any severance pay after separation from your last employment? Yes No*
10. Have you received or will you receive any vacation pay after separation from your last employment? Yes No*
11. Do you have a return to work date? Yes No*
12. Are you receiving or have you applied for pension or retirement pay? Yes No*
13. Are you receiving or have you applied for disability pay? Yes No*
14. Have you worked and had any earnings since your last employment? Yes No*
15. If yes to question 14, enter the amount of wages received since becoming unemployed.
16. Why were you separated from your most recent employer ?
17. Are you receiving unemployment compensation from Canada? Yes No*
18. Did you or will you work full-time this week? Yes No*
19. Did you or will you work and earn at least \$275 this week? Yes No*

4. Click the checkboxes for Payment Information, Tax Withholding Information and the Certifications at the bottom of the screen and click Submit.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

I hereby authorize the Department of Economic Opportunity to follow the same payment option I chose in my most recent Reemployment Assistance application.

TAX WITHHOLDING INFORMATION

Reemployment Assistance benefits are fully taxable if you are required to file a tax return.

Public Law 103-465 requires the Department of Economic Opportunity to deduct and withhold federal income tax from Reemployment Assistance if an individual receiving those benefits voluntarily requests such deduction and withholding. You may request a withholding deduction equal to 10% of your weekly assistance for federal income taxes.

A statement, Form 1099-G, will be furnished to you at the end of January stating the amount of benefits paid and withheld during the prior year. The same information will be transmitted to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

The income taxes deducted are held in trust for the U.S. Government. All refunds must be obtained from the IRS on any overpayment of income taxes.

The department is not responsible for refunding withheld taxes.

It may be necessary for you to make estimated tax payments. For more information on when these payments should be made, refer to the IRS publication titled "Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax" or contact the IRS. PLEASE DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS CONCERNING YOUR INCOME TAX LIABILITY TO THE IRS.

I hereby authorize the Department of Economic Opportunity to follow the same tax withholding option I chose in my most recent Reemployment Assistance application.

CERTIFICATIONS

1. I understand the Florida law requires me to register with Workforce Services via Employ Florida Marketplace to continue my eligibility for benefit payments.
 - * I agree
2. I understand that I will be notified if I am required to attend a One-Stop Career Center Seminar. Failure to attend by the given date may result in a delay or loss of my unemployment benefits. If a One-Stop Career Center gives me a job referral, I understand that failure to pursue this referral may result in a loss of unemployment benefits.
 - * I agree
3. I understand the following:
 - I am required to request benefit payments for each week I wish to receive benefits.
 - If there is a pending issue or appeal on my claim, I must continue requesting benefit payments in order to be paid for those weeks if I am later determined to be eligible.
 - * I agree
4. I understand that if I do any work, including military reserve drill pay or self-employment, I must report the total wages earned (before taxes), whether or not I have been paid when I request benefit payment for that week.
 - * I agree
5. I understand I will be required to submit a minimum of five work search contacts or the details of a One-Stop Career Center visit when I request benefit payments. Each week I will be required to submit the:
 - Date of contact
 - Method of contact
 - Business name, telephone number, website name/URL or email address
 - Result of each contact
 - Type of work sought
 - * I agree

I have answered all questions fully and truthfully. I know there are penalties for giving wrong information. If I am required to receive benefits, I must meet the eligibility requirements.

* I agree

By submitting this application, I acknowledge that I am filing this application for Reemployment Assistance and that all information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my ability. I further understand that knowingly making a false statement or representation or knowingly failing to disclose a material fact can be prosecuted as a felony pursuant to section 443.071, Fla. Stat.

5. The application has been submitted.

Remember: You will need to check back in CONNECT regularly to respond to any requests for additional information. You will need to login to CONNECT every two weeks to request your benefits.

If your most recent claim is expired, you will need to complete a state Reemployment Assistance Application prior to receiving the PEUC link.