



SOUTH DAKOTA  
DEPT. OF **LABOR**  
& **REGULATION**

# Reemployment Assistance

March 27, 2020

# Reemployment Basics

- Meant to be a temporary, partial wage replacement to help cover necessities (food, housing, etc.)
- Not meant to replace paid leave, such as sick leave or vacation leave

# Basics, continued...

- Benefits = approximately 50% of someone's previous average weekly wage, up to the maximum weekly benefit amount of \$414 per week
- Maximum weekly benefit is \$414 per week
  - Related wage scenario: Weekly wage \$818; Annual wage \$42,536
- Minimum wage job assuming full-time hours
  - Related wage scenario: \$9.30 per hour; Weekly wage = \$372. Approximate weekly benefit = \$186

# Perspective

- Week ending March 14 = 190 initial claims
- Week ending March 21 = 1,703 initial claims
- Call Center typical staffing = 11
- 25 staff added March 23
- 23 additional phone lines March 26 (now 115)

# Eligibility Related to COVID-19

- Those who are quarantined by a medical professional or a government agency,
- Those who are laid off or sent home without pay for an extended period by their employer due to COVID-19 concerns, or
- Those who test positive for COVID-19.

*Work search requirements have been waived.*

# Employers: SIDES e-Response

- Sign up for the State Information Data Exchange System (SIDES)
- Fast and secure (part of process, not entire)
- Once employer signs up, claim notes are emailed not mailed
- SIDES is especially helpful to large volume layoffs
- To sign up:  
<https://dlr.sd.gov/ra/businesses/sides.aspx>

# Employer Question

- What should we as an employer do when preparing to lay individuals off, but hope they will return?
  - Sign up for SIDES
  - Define layoff as temporary tied to COVID-19
  - Consider requiring staff to use paid leave first
  - Send questions to [DLRRADivision@state.sd.us](mailto:DLRRADivision@state.sd.us)

# Employer Question

- What advice should we give employees?
  - File online at [raclaims.sd.gov](https://raclaims.sd.gov)
  - Have Social Security #, Driver's License or State ID, and 18 months' work history
  - Request direct deposit when prompted
  - Don't panic; claims can be backdated
  - Information will be confirmed with employer



# Employer Questions

- How much do laid-off workers get with unemployment?
  - Average 50% of weekly wage; Max \$414/week
- Are part-time employees eligible?
  - Possibly; individuals with reduced hours may also be eligible
- Employers hired through a disabilities support center eligible?
  - Guidance will vary by program

# Things to Watch

- Federal legislation requires waiting week be waived and employer tax rates not be impacted
- FFCRA – Guidance to be released on April 1
- CARES Act – Passed Senate; House to vote on March 27

# Important Resources

- Post/Search for Jobs: [sdjobs.org](https://sdjobs.org)
- File UI online: [raclaims.sd.gov](https://raclaims.sd.gov)
- File UI by phone: 605.626.3179
  - Minimum 1 hour wait time
- Employer questions:  
[DLRRADivision@state.sd.us](mailto:DLRRADivision@state.sd.us)

# Thank you

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