

Unemployment Program

LOST WAGES ASSISTANCE (LWA) PROGRAM



Notice: On August 8, 2020, the President issued the Memorandum on Authorizing the Other Needs Assistance Program for Major Disaster Declarations Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019. This Memorandum establishes the Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) program, which allows for temporary enhanced financial support to those whose jobs or wages have been adversely affected by COVID-19. LWA provides an eligible individual with \$300 per week in addition to the weekly benefit amount they receive from certain other Unemployment Compensation programs.

As provided in the Presidential Memo, an “eligible claimant” is an individual who: (1) provides self-certification that he or she is unemployed or partially unemployed due to disruptions caused by COVID-19 and (2) receives, for the week of unemployment with respect to which LWA is sought, at least \$100 of regular UC or any of the following UC programs:

- Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE);
- Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemembers (UCX);
- Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC);
- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA);
- Extended Benefits (EB);
- Short-Time Compensation (STC) - known as Shared Work in Arizona; and
- Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA).

LWA is payable to eligible claimants beginning with weeks of unemployment ending on or after August 1, 2020. Claimants in Arizona who are monetarily eligible to receive at least \$100 of benefits during the claimed week for one of the programs listed above **and** who certify that they are unemployed or partially unemployed as a result of COVID-19 will be eligible for the \$300 LWA payment. The LWA payment is subject to both federal and state income taxes. The Department will make the LWA payments in the same manner as any payment from one of the above-listed programs payable for the week involved; claimants will not file a separate application for this payment.

The Department anticipates receiving funding on a week-by-week basis, starting Monday August 17, 2020, and will make payments until federal funding is exhausted. Please check www.azui.com for the most up-to-date information on LWA funding and payments.

Fraud. An individual commits fraud if he or she knowingly has made or caused to be made by another, a false statement or representation of a material fact, or knowingly has failed, or caused another to fail, to disclose a material fact, and as a result of such false statement or representation or of such nondisclosure such individual has received an amount of LWA to which such individual was not entitled.