

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR 1199SEIU UNITED HEALTHCARE WORKERS EAST MEMBERS EXPERIENCING LAYOFFS



for members working in New Jersey

The current healthcare crisis and resulting stay at home orders are causing an extraordinary drain of resources on many clinics and other healthcare providers, which has precipitated sudden lay-offs of healthcare workers. **The Union will continue to advocate and ensure that these lay-offs are temporary and that the employers begin to recall members as soon as this crisis subsides and operations resume.**

Your union fought for extended and additional unemployment benefits for all workers affected by the pandemic. The benefit possibilities outlined below are newly available state and federal benefits that do not include and are in addition to the paid time off that you may have already earned and may be entitled to receive.

1199SEIU TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT FUNDS

1199seiubenefits.org/training-and-employment

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q I work at a hospital, nursing home, clinic or home care agency, and I'm being laid-off or furloughed (temporarily laid-off), what unemployment benefits am I eligible for?

- » You are eligible for the regular 26 weeks of unemployment compensation, plus an additional 13 weeks through December 31, 2020.
- » You are also eligible for "enhanced benefits," an additional \$600 per week, through July 31, 2020. Example: if your regular unemployment benefit would be \$300 per week, under the new expansion you will receive an additional \$600 of federal pandemic unemployment compensation, for a total of \$900 per week.
- » All waiting periods are eliminated during the crisis.

Q Do I need to use all of my earned sick time before applying for unemployment insurance?

- » No, if you are laid-off, experience a reduction of hours or are otherwise eligible for unemployment insurance, you do not need to use your earned sick time before applying for unemployment insurance.

Q If my hours are reduced, am I eligible for Unemployment Compensation?

- » You might be. Follow the instructions on the next page related to lay-offs to determine your level of benefits from the unemployment compensation system.

Q Are there services available that can help me find another job if I am unemployed?

- » Yes. Please go to <https://www.1199seiubenefits.org/employment-center/> to upload your information.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT?

- **Apply Online**

- » General Information: <https://myunemployment.nj.gov/>
- » If it is your first time applying for Unemployment Compensation, you must first create an account with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Follow instructions outlined here: <https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/before/createaccount/index.shtml>
- » Once you have created an account, apply here: <https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/before/about/howtoapply/opendashboard.shtml>

- **Apply by Phone**

- » Apply-by-phone hours: 8:00am – 3:00 pm, Monday - Friday

Number	Your Location
(201) 601-4100	North New Jersey
(732) 761-2020	Central New Jersey
(856) 507-2340	South New Jersey
888-795-6672	Out-of-state claims/calling from out-of-state-area code
1-877-293-4125 (toll free)	Voice Relay

- **Schedule**

- » Due to an unprecedented volume of claims, it is recommended that you apply according to the schedule below. The schedule applies to both online and phone claims..

Last digit of your Social Security Number Between:	Time you should apply
0000 - 1250	8:00am – 9:00am
1251 -2500	9:00am – 10:00am
2501 – 3750	10:00am – 11:00am
3751 – 5000	11:00am – 12:00pm
6251 – 7500	1:00pm – 2:00pm
7501-875000	2:00pm – 3:00pm
8751 – 9999	3:00pm – 4:00pm

WORKFORCE SHORTAGES

Q My facility or agency is short-staffed, what can the union do to help?

- » The Union's Training and Employment Funds created an online portal for retired and out of work people to apply for work. If you have friends or family who want to work at an 1199SEIU facility, ask them to sign up here:
<https://www.1199seiubenefits.org/employment-center/>
- » Workers are needed for most positions, including dietary, environmental service (cleaning), home health aides, certified nurse assistants, LPNs, RNs, respiratory therapists and others.

OTHER

Q I am hearing that I might be getting a check from the federal government, is that true?

- » Individual workers making less than \$75,000 will receive a check of \$1200. Married workers will receive a check of \$2400 if their combined income is less than \$150,000. Your Union fought for the CARES Act to make sure workers have income during this crisis.

Q Someone in my family works as an "independent contractor" or "freelancer" and they have not been eligible for unemployment compensation in the past, are they eligible?

- » Unions fought for workers who are not normally covered by unemployment compensation to get benefits. The CARES Act provides emergency unemployment benefits from your state for up to 39 weeks. Your family and friends can apply through their state for unemployment benefits (see previous page).