

EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (33 additional weeks)

Federal legislation enacted in July 2008 provided 13 weeks of Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) benefits for workers who exhaust their regular UI benefits. In November 2008, federal legislation added 7 weeks for a total of 20 weeks of EUC. This legislation also included a second tier of 13 additional weeks in states with high unemployment. Hawaii reached the level of high unemployment with an effective date of May 3, 2009. A third legislation enacted in February 2009 extends the end of the EUC program to December 31, 2009 but does not increase the total number of weeks payable to individuals.

20 weeks of Tier I EUC. The Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2008 provided up to 13 weeks of federally funded EUC benefits in all states to unemployed individuals who collected all regular benefits or whose benefit claims were expired. The first payable week is week ending July 12, 2008. The Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008 expanded the EUC program up to 7 additional weeks for a total of 20 weeks. The first payable week for the 7 additional weeks is week ending November 29, 2008.

13 weeks of Tier II EUC. The Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008 also authorized a second tier of 13 additional weeks in states with high unemployment for a total of 33 weeks. With the total unemployment rate climbing to more than 6 percent in the first quarter of 2009, Hawaii triggered on to Tier II. The first payable week for Tier II is week ending May 9, 2009.

Remaining balances on existing claims. After December 31, 2009, individuals with balances remaining on their EUC claim may continue to be eligible for their maximum EUC amount until the week ending June 5, 2010. No EUC benefits can be paid for any week that begins after May 31, 2010.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR EUC?

To be eligible, individuals must meet the following requirements:

1. You must be currently unemployed and apply by December 26, 2009. No new applications may be made for weeks of unemployment ending after December 31, 2009.
2. You had a claim for regular benefits with a benefit year ending May 1, 2007 or later which has exhausted or has expired.
3. You must have no rights to regular benefits or any other compensation under federal law and not receiving benefits under the Canada unemployment law.
4. You must have one of the following in the base period of your last regular unemployment insurance claim:

- 20 weeks of full-time insured employment or
 - Wages equal to one and one-half times your high quarter wages or
 - Wages equal to 40 times the weekly benefit amount on your last regular claim.
5. You must satisfy all eligibility requirements of the Hawaii Employment Security Law.
 6. You must be registered in HireNet Hawaii and keep your resume posted online. You must continue to make 3 job contacts each week.
 7. You must not have a disqualification or ineligibility still in effect.

In addition to the above, to be eligible for second tier EUC:

1. You must exhaust the 20 weeks of first tier EUC before December 31, 2009.

HOW DO I FILE FOR EUC?

1. **New EUC Claims - Exhaustees of Regular UI benefits.**
For individuals who exhaust regular UI benefits, notices are being mailed out weekly with instructions to report in-person to a local claims office with your notice or to call Hawaii Tele-Claim and apply for EUC by phone. The maximum benefit amount on your new EUC claim will be 33 times your weekly benefit amount provided you exhaust your first 20 weeks of benefits before December 31, 2009.
2. **Current EUC filers - Claimants who have not exhausted 20 weeks of Tier I.**
If you are currently filing EUC, your EUC claim will be extended to 33 weeks if you exhaust the first 20 weeks of Tier I EUC before December 31, 2009. You will receive a revised monetary determination showing the increase in benefits. You should continue to file your claim certifications according to your normal filing schedule.
3. **Reopen EUC claims - EUC claimants who exhausted 20 weeks of Tier I.**
If you have exhausted the first 20 weeks of Tier I benefits and are still unemployed, you will receive a notice containing a Tier II EUC application to reopen your existing EUC claim. Your claim will be reviewed and processed after you mail or fax the completed EUC application to your local claims office. A revised monetary determination showing the increase in benefits to 33 weeks will be mailed to you. After you receive your revised monetary determination, begin filing your claim certifications (weekly for week ending 5/9/09, weekly for week ending 5/16/09, and then bi-weekly for weeks thereafter). To file by phone, call Hawaii Tele-Claim using your same PIN number.

To file for new or to reopen EUC claims by phone. Call Hawaii Tele-Claim (toll-free) at:

643-5555 (if you are in Hawaii) or
1-877-215-5793 (if you are out-of-state)

Sunday through Thursday 6:30 am to 12 midnight (HST) and
Friday 6:30 am to 4:30 pm.

To file weekly or bi-weekly claim certifications by phone. Call Hawaii Tele-Claim at:

643-2222 (if you are in Hawaii) or
1-877-215-5791 (if you are out-of-state)

To file in person: See Local Claim Office locations below.

HONOLULU Claims Office
830 Punchbowl St., Rm 110
PO Box 4090
Honolulu, HI 96812-4090
Ph: 586-8970 or 586-8971
Fax: 586-8980

LIABLE INTERSTATE Unit (out-of-state)
PO Box 4090
Honolulu, HI 96812-4090
Ph: (808) 586-8960
Fax: (808) 586-8980

WAIPAHU Claims Office
94-275 Mokuola St, Rm 301
Waipahu, HI 96797-3369
Ph: 675-0030
Fax: 675-0025

KANEOHE Claims Unit
PO Box 4087
Honolulu, HI 96812-4087
Ph: 586-8970 or 586-8971
Fax: 586-8980

KANEOHE Office
46-005 Kawa St., Ste 205
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Ph: 233-3679

HILO Claims Office
1990 Kinoole St., Ste 101
Hilo, HI 96720-5293
Ph: 974-4086
Fax: 974-4085

KONA Claims office
81-990 Halekii St, Rm 2090
Kealahou, HI 96750
Ph: 322-4822
Fax: 322-4828

MAUI Claims Office
54 South High St., Rm 201
Wailuku, HI 96793
Ph: 984-8400
Fax: 984-8444

MOLOKAI Claims Office
55 Makaena St, Rm 4
Kaunakakai, HI 96748-1858
Ph: 553-1750
Fax: 553-1753

KAUAI Claims Office
3-3100 Kuhio Hwy, Rm C-12
Lihue, HI 96766
Ph: 274-3043
Fax: 274-3046