

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

### **When do I start getting the extra \$300 a week FPUC payment?**

Beginning the week ending January 2, 2021 and all eligible weeks through March 13, 2021, individuals will receive the extra \$300 per week FPUC payment for all weeks they receive regular unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits, Extended Benefits (EB), or Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits.

UI, PEUC, EB and PUA claimants are now receiving the FPUC payments at the same time. You do not need to apply separately for the FPUC payment. It will be added to your regular weekly benefit amount.

### **How long will the extra \$300 a week FPUC payment be available?**

The \$300 per week FPUC payments are available for all eligible weeks for which individuals claim regular UI, PEUC, EB, or PUA beginning the week ending January 2, 2021 and will be paid for all eligible weeks claimed through March 13, 2021.

### **I am not usually eligible for UI but am now eligible for a benefit because of expansions created by the Continued Assistance Act. Do I get the extra \$300 a week FPUC payment?**

Yes, all individuals who are eligible and receiving regular UI, PEUC, EB, or PUA will automatically receive the \$300 FPUC payment per week.

### **Will the extra \$300 a week FPUC payment affect my eligibility for public assistance programs?**

The extra \$300 per week FPUC payment will not affect eligibility for Medicaid or the Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Please note that the extra \$300 per week FPUC payment will affect eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

### **My job reduced my hours, and I am collecting UI or will be filing for UI. Am I eligible for the extra \$300 a week FPUC payment?**

Yes. All individuals collecting regular UI, PEUC, EB or PUA are eligible for the \$300 per week FPUC payment.

### **My employer offered me my job back, but I would make more staying on unemployment. Can I do this?**

No. If you are offered suitable work by your employer and refuse to accept it, without good cause, you may no longer be eligible for UI, PEUC, EB or PUA.

Determining whether there was good cause for refusal of work is driven by the facts of each claimant's circumstances. During the current COVID-19 pandemic, if an employee refuses to return to work because:

- they are at high risk of complications from the virus and their employer cannot make reasonable accommodations for them; or
- if they were being asked to return to work at reduced hours that result in them earning less than they did before the pandemic

Then, we will review those specific reasons and make determinations based on the facts of individual cases.

If you do return to work at reduced hours, resulting in a reduced weekly income compared to your weekly income before filing for UI, you may be eligible for partial UI benefits plus the \$300 per week FPUC payment.

Any week in which you perform work and earn wages as a result must be reported on your weekly certification. Failure to report any gross earnings received will result in an overpayment.

### **Do I have to pay taxes on the extra \$300 a week FPUC payment?**

Yes, FPUC is taxable and will be subject to 10% federal withholding tax, if you elected to have taxes withheld from your regular UI, PEUC, EB or PUA benefits.