

NEWS RELEASE

For Statewide Distribution



For Immediate Release
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Apply for Disaster Unemployment Insurance Benefits Filing Deadline is November 28th

DES MOINES, IOWA - Iowans living or working in Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona and Pottawattamie counties recently declared disaster areas may be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits under the federal Disaster Unemployment Assistance program. The federal government declared these five counties as a weather-related disaster area eligible for individual assistance, in October for flooding.

Claims need to be filed by November 28, 2011, according to Wahlert. The benefits cover self-employed workers not usually entitled to unemployment insurance, including Iowa farmers. People applying for DUA need to provide proof of past earnings, such as business records or bank statements and their most recent income tax form, at the time they file their claim. Any IowaWORKS Center can accept DUA claims, including the following offices:

IowaWORKS – Council Bluffs
300 West Broadway, Suite 13
712-242-2100
8:00-4:30PM Monday – Thursday
9:00 – 4:30PM Friday

IowaWORKS – Sioux City
2508 Fourth Street
712-233-9030
8:30-4:30PM Monday – Friday

Additionally, individuals can file a regular unemployment claim online at www.iowaworkforce.org and include "DUA Claim" in the notes section.

Those eligible for benefits in addition to individuals who lost their jobs directly due to the flooding may also include: (1) individuals who are unable to reach their job or self-employment location because they must travel through the affected area and are prevented from doing so by the disaster, (2) individuals who were to commence employment or self-employment but were prevented by the disaster, (3) individuals who became the breadwinner or major support for a household because of the death of the head of household due to the disaster, or (4) individuals who cannot work or perform services in self-employment because of an injury caused as a direct result of the disaster. Unemployment is a direct result of the major disaster if the unemployment resulted from: (1) the physical damage or destruction of the place of employment; (2) the physical inaccessibility of the place of employment due to its closure by the federal, state, or local government in immediate response to the disaster; or (3) lack of work, or loss of revenues, if, prior to the disaster, the employer or self-employed business received at least a majority of its revenue or income from an entity in the major disaster area that was damaged or destroyed in the disaster or an entity in the major disaster area closed by the federal, state, or local government.

In addition to assistance filing a DUA claim, IowaWORKS Centers offer reemployment services, including testing, counseling and placement. Job search and career information also is available through Iowa Workforce Development's Web site at www.iowaworkforce.org

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Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.
www.iowaworkforce.org • www.iowaworks.org • www.iowajobs.org