

Qualifying and Applying for Unemployment

Many businesses across the country are struggling and have been forced to lay off employees, cut hours or reduce pay due to the [COVID-19](#) pandemic. The [Indiana Department of Workforce Development](#) (DWD) is working diligently to adapt to this unique situation and ensure that no Hoosier is left behind.

The DWD is reminding Hoosiers that applying for unemployment insurance benefits must be completed electronically at [Unemployment.IN.gov](#). Click [here](#) for a FAQ sheet or call **800-891-6499** for assistance. *Due to high call volume, some callers are getting a message that the phone number is not working. DWD is working to correct this and answer calls as quickly as possible.*

During the current COVID-19 pandemic, you should be eligible for unemployment benefits if you are unable to work because you have been ordered quarantined by a doctor, because you need to care for your children while their school or daycare is closed, or because your employer has shut down or laid you off.

If your hours have been reduced due to COVID-19, you may also be eligible for benefits, but any benefits you receive will be reduced to reflect that you have earned partial income from your employer.

However, if you choose to stay home and not work during the pandemic, even though your employer is still operating, and you have not been told to stay home by a doctor, you will likely not be eligible for unemployment benefits.

In addition, the [CARES Act](#), which was recently passed by Congress, allows unemployment claimants to get an extra \$600 per week during the COVID-19 pandemic. The DWD expects this extra money to start appearing in Hoosier benefit payments around April 20, and they will receive the extra pay retroactive to March 29.

The CARES Act also makes self-employed individuals and gig workers temporarily eligible for unemployment benefits in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The DWD is currently working to integrate these individuals into the unemployment system, so these individuals will have to wait longer before they start receiving benefits.

For more information and resources, including a recent archived video explaining common unemployment questions, visit [in.gov/dwd](#).

Local Communities Receive Road-Funding Grants

Communities in Senate District 11 will receive more than \$3.5 million to improve roads and bridges through the [Community Crossings Matching Grant Program](#).

In Senate District 11, the following communities received grants:

Elkhart received \$457,800
Elkhart County received \$915,532
Osceola received \$159,429.18
South Bend received \$1 million
St. Joseph County received \$1 million

For more information on the grant program, which was established by the Indiana General Assembly in 2016, click [here](#).



COVID-19
For a list of informational resources to help you navigate COVID-19, click here.



**Indiana State
Dept. of Health
COVID-19 Homepage**

Unemployment
Need to file for unemployment due to COVID-19?
Click here to learn more



IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Rogers / [800-382-9467](tel:800-382-9467) / Senator.Rogers@iga.in.gov



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