

# QUICK FACTS

## New Jersey Unemployment Benefits

as of March 24, 2020

### Eligibility

To receive benefits, you have to meet a minimum earnings requirement during your “base period.” The base period is the timeframe used to determine if you qualify for UI benefits and to calculate your benefit amount.

The regular base year period consists of the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters before the week you file an initial claim. Your regular base year period consists of 52 weeks and is determined by the date you apply for Unemployment Insurance benefits, as outlined in the chart below:

Then, the weekly benefit rate will be 1/25 of these earnings, with a minimum benefit rate of \$104 as of January 1, 2020.

The base period is the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters prior to when a claim is filed. The maximum weekly benefit rate is \$504 as of 10/07/19.

### Earnings

You must have earned at least \$200 per week during 20 or more weeks in covered employment during the base year period, or you must have earned at least \$10,000 in total covered employment during the base year period.

The wages earned during your base year will determine the amount of weekly benefits you may receive, and the total amount you can claim in a given year. The weekly benefit rate is capped at a maximum amount based on the state minimum wage. For 2020, the maximum weekly benefit rate is \$713.

The state will calculate your weekly benefit rate at 60% of the average weekly wage you earned during the base year, up to that maximum. Minimum wage is \$10.00 per hour.

A claimant may be eligible for partial unemployment benefits while working part time due to lack of work. However, the worker's weekly benefit amount will be reduced dollar-for-dollar for all earnings in excess of 20% of the worker's full weekly benefit rate.

## Unemployment Benefits Table

### If your claim is dated in:

January 2020, February 2020, March 2020

April 2020, May 2020, June 2020

July 2020, August 2020, September 2020

October 2020, November 2020, December 2020

### Your claim is based on employment from:

October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

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