



**A
GUIDE TO
ARIZONA BENEFITS**

<http://www.azui.com>

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC SECURITY**

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
ADMINISTRATION**

A GUIDE TO ARIZONA BENEFITS

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Certification of Understanding.....	1
Unemployment Insurance Programs	1
General Information.....	2
General Benefit Unemployment Eligibility	3
Eligibility Based on Work and Wages	4
Denial of Benefits.....	6
Filing Weekly Continued Claims	6
Appeals	8
Eligibility Review.....	9
Claims Audit	9
Change of Address.....	9
Overpayments	9
Taxable Benefits.....	10
Discrimination is Prohibited	10
Privacy Act.....	11
Confidentiality	11
ADA Statement	11
Web Sites and Phone Numbers	Back Cover

A GUIDE TO ARIZONA UI BENEFITS

INTRODUCTION

This booklet explains your rights and responsibilities regarding claims for unemployment insurance benefits but is not the law. The Employment Security Law of Arizona and the State Rules set the eligibility requirements for receiving unemployment insurance benefits in the State of Arizona.

Workers in Arizona do not contribute to these benefits. Employer taxes pay for unemployment insurance benefits in Arizona.

CERTIFICATION OF UNDERSTANDING

You are responsible for learning your rights and responsibilities in connection with your unemployment insurance claim. You must certify that you have read and understand the contents of this booklet or have had the contents of this booklet explained to you. If you have any questions, please ask a customer service representative. Contact information is on the last page.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAMS

Listed below are unemployment insurance programs available in the State of Arizona.

Unemployment Insurance (UI) - Your eligibility is based on wages you have earned in Arizona from employers who pay the unemployment insurance tax.

Unemployment Insurance for Federal Employees (UCFE) – Your eligibility for this program is determined by the unemployment insurance laws of the state where you last worked in federal civilian employment. If you also had some non-federal employment, or if you were employed outside the United States, your eligibility depends on the laws of the state where you live when you file your claim.

Unemployment Insurance for Ex-Military and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Personnel (UCX) - Your eligibility for this program is based on the reason for separation from active service in the armed forces or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). You will need to provide information from your Service Member Copy No. 4 of the DD-214. The state where you first file a claim after separation determines eligibility for benefits under the unemployment insurance laws of that state.

Combined Wages -Your eligibility for this program allows you to combine wages earned in all states. You have the option to file a claim in any one of the states where you earned wages. Combining wages may increase the amount of unemployment insurance benefits you may receive.

Approved Training - This program is designed for individuals who are currently enrolled in a training program. The Department determines eligibility after it is established that the course and school are approved.

Shared Work - This program is only available if your employer has applied and been approved for a Shared Work plan. Under this program, you may be eligible for a portion of your unemployment insurance benefits when your work hours are reduced.

Workers Compensation Claim (Alternate Base Period) - You may use an alternate base period if you have a work-related injury or disability, you received Workers Compensation from your employer, and you did not earn enough wages in your regular base period to qualify for regular benefits.

Labor Dispute Claim – You may file a Labor Dispute Claim if a dispute or disagreement results in a strike or lockout at your place of employment. The Department will confirm that a labor dispute exists.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) - This is a special form of federal unemployment insurance payable to workers and self-employed individuals when they lose their jobs as a result of a major disaster. The Department will publicly announce when DUA is in effect.

Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) - This program is provided by federal law. This is a special type of unemployment insurance payable to workers who lose their jobs due to imports.

Extended Benefits - This program may be available to you during a period of high unemployment if you use up your regular benefits and are not monetarily eligible in another state. The Department will make public announcements and advise all individuals who are potentially eligible when an Extended Benefit period begins or ends.

For additional information on these Unemployment Insurance Programs, please contact a customer service representative to explain the options and procedures.

GENERAL INFORMATION

When you apply, we ask you a series of questions to find out if you are eligible. We review wages and earnings (monetary) and general (non-monetary) eligibility factors, which are explained in the following sections. We will notify your former employer(s) when you file a claim and we will ask for the last date you worked and the reason you are unemployed.

Reporting information – When you file your initial claim or a weekly continued claim for unemployment insurance benefits, you are responsible for reporting any information that may affect your eligibility for benefits.

False statement on claims - If you knowingly make a false statement or withhold information in order to collect unemployment insurance benefits you are not entitled to, this may be considered fraud and you will be disqualified from receiving benefits up to 52 weeks. The Arizona Department of Economic Security may take civil or criminal action. You will be required to repay the amount you received illegally. Unemployment Insurance fraud is a potential *Class VI Felony* punishable by up to *two years in prison* and *fines up to \$150,000* for *each* overpaid benefit week.

Additional Claims - If you stopped filing because you returned to work and want to continue your unemployment claim, you will need to provide us with the name of your last employer, you're new last day of work, and your reason for separation. You may file this claim online at www.azui.com.

Reopening Claims - If you stopped filing because of vacation, illness or other reason, you can file a claim to reopen online at www.azui.com. You will not receive payment for any weeks of unemployment for which you did not file a weekly claim.

Waiting Week - The **waiting week** is the first week you file a weekly claim and meet all eligibility requirements. *You will not receive benefits for a waiting week.* Your waiting week cannot be:

- A week in which you earn wages equal to or greater than your weekly benefit amount
- A week for which you are not eligible for any reason
- A week that occurred prior to the effective date of your claim

First payable claim – This is usually the week following your waiting week *if* you are eligible for benefits.

Reemployment Services - Reemployment services are available to anyone who is looking for work. These services include:

- A nationwide listing of job openings
- Resume preparation assistance
- Employment counseling and guidance
- Reemployment training referrals
- Labor Market Information and exploring career options
- Veterans' representatives to help U.S. military veterans

Many employers seeking qualified workers list their employment opportunities through the Employment Service Office.

Direct Deposit - You may elect to have your unemployment benefits deposited into a checking or savings account of your choice. You can request this online at www.azui.com when you file your initial claim or when you file your weekly claim.

Debit Card - When you file for unemployment benefits, the Department's banking institution will send you a debit card in the mail. This card remains valid for three years. You will not receive a new card each time you file. Your unemployment insurance benefits (and child support payments if you receive them) are deposited into the debit account connected to this card. ***Follow the instructions provided with the card to activate it. You must do this before you can use the card.***

Everyone who files for unemployment benefits will receive a debit card.

Incorrect Payment - If you receive a payment that you believe is in the wrong amount or should not have been issued to you, ***do not spend the funds.*** Call a customer service representative as soon as possible.

GENERAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY

Residency - ***You are not eligible*** if you live outside of the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands ***and*** you do not have access to an employment office ***and*** you cannot accept immediate employment in the U.S.

Able to work - You must be mentally and physically able to work at a job for which you are qualified by experience, education, or training. You are not eligible for benefits if you are sick or otherwise not able to work.

Available for work - You must be available to a labor market that has jobs you are qualified for through your experience, education, or training. You must be ready to accept full-time work when offered and to report for work at the time the employer requires. You must also have transportation, proper clothing, licenses, and tools as required for your type of work. In addition, any domestic responsibilities, such as child care, must not present a barrier to prompt reemployment.

Actively seeking work - You must make an active and continuous effort to seek work each week you claim benefits. ***If you do not search for work as described below, we will disqualify you for the duration of your unemployment.***

To stay eligible for benefits:

You must engage in a systematic and sustained effort to obtain work.

Your work search should include trying to find work that you are suited for by experience, education, and/or training. An adequate search for work is a sincere, consistent effort to find a job and is not just an attempt to remain eligible for benefits. You should follow-up general inquiries by making personal visits or by submitting applications and resumes.

Besides directly contacting employers, acceptable work search contacts also include:

- Registering with and contacting your union hiring or placement facility
- Registering with a placement facility of your professional organization
- Checking back with former employers who may have openings suitable for you
- Registering with a placement facility at your school, college, or university for work that may be available in your occupation or profession
- Taking a test for or applying for openings in civil service or with a government agency
- Registering for suitable work with a private employment agency or an employer's placement facility

Keep a record of all work contacts you make for each week you file for benefits. ***You are required*** to provide this information when you file your weekly claim. Keep the following information on each employer contacted:

- The date of contact
- The employer's name and address
- The name of the person you contacted or the address of the website you visited
- The method of contact
- The type of work you sought
- The results of the contact

Register with DES Employment Service – You must be registered with the Arizona Job Connection before you can collect benefits. The Department will attempt to register you based on the information you provide. If we are unable to complete your registration for any reason, a notice will be sent to you. The notice will tell you what action you must take to correct and activate your registration. Your benefits may be delayed or denied if you do not comply with the notice. For the Arizona Job Connection website, see the last page.

Reemployment Eligibility Assessment Program - When you file a new unemployment insurance claim, you must provide the following information:

- Number of years employed by your last employer
- Number of employers you worked for in the last three years

The information you provide when you file your claim will determine if you are selected for the Reemployment Eligibility Assessment Program. If you are selected, you will have to take part in a reemployment orientation workshop. We may also refer you to job assistance, testing, counseling, or other services. We will delay or deny your benefits if you fail to report for or take part in these services.

Temporary Layoff - If you are temporarily laid off, you must look for work pending recall to your former job. If your work is seasonal and you are out of work in the off-season, you must look for other work.

Union Member - If you obtain work through a union, you must be registered with the union, maintain your position on the “out of work list,” and meet all union requirements. We may ask you to submit proof of your union membership at any time, and we may contact your union to verify your status. If the union allows you to make a personal search, you must:

- Meet the union requirements for job referral
- Apply directly with employers who hire people with your experience, training, or skill

If your union does not allow you to make a personal search, you must make contact with the union on at least four different days of the week.

ELIGIBILITY BASED ON WORK AND WAGES

Non-Citizens - If you are not authorized to work in the United States, your wages cannot be used for unemployment insurance eligibility.

Wage Information - Employers report your wages to the Department each calendar quarter. The wages from all of the employers in your *Base Period* (see below) are combined to determine the amount of benefits you may be eligible to receive.

Base Period - The amount of benefits you may be eligible to receive is based on insured wages paid to you during a one-year period called the *Base Period* (insured wages are wages earned from an employer who pays unemployment insurance taxes). The *Base Period* is the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters before you file your claim. The four calendar quarters are:

- 1st quarter is January 1 - March 31
- 2nd quarter is April 1 - June 30
- 3rd quarter is July 1 - September 30
- 4th quarter is October 1 - December 31

Your Base Period is within the shaded area if a claim is filed in-

OCT. NOV. DEC.	JAN. FEB. MAR.	APRIL MAY JUNE	JULY AUG. SEPT.	5 th /Lag Quarter	JAN. FEB. MAR.			
	JAN. FEB. MAR.	APRIL MAY JUNE	JULY AUG. SEPT.	OCT. NOV. DEC.	5 th /Lag Quarter	APRIL MAY JUNE		
		APRIL MAY JUNE	JULY AUG. SEPT.	OCT. NOV. DEC.	JAN. FEB. MAR.	5 th /Lag Quarter	JULY AUG. SEPT.	
			JULY AUG. SEPT.	OCT. NOV. DEC.	JAN. FEB. MAR.	APRIL MAY JUNE	5 th /Lag Quarter	OCT. NOV. DEC.
Previous Year	Last Year				This Year			

Your benefits are based on your earnings in the four shaded calendar quarters above.

To qualify for benefits, you must have worked for an employer who paid unemployment tax and you must have earned:

- At least 390 times the Arizona minimum wage in your highest earning quarter and a total of half of that amount in your high quarter has to be earned within one or more of the other three quarters. (For example, if you made \$5000 in your highest quarter you need to have earned a total of \$2500 within the remaining three quarters combined)
- *or*
- At least \$7000 in total wages in at least two quarters of the base period, with wages in one quarter equal to \$5987.50 or more

Alternate Base Period – If you are not eligible for benefits using the base period as described above *and* you received *Worker's Compensation*, you may be eligible to use an alternate base period. An alternate base period uses wages you earned before you became disabled. The alternate base period will be the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters prior to the date you became disabled. You must meet *all* of the following conditions to qualify for a claim using the alternate base period:

- Be ineligible for a claim using the current base period *and*
- Earn base period wages before you became injured or disabled that were not used on a prior UI claim *and* file your UI claim within two years of the work-related injury or disability *and*
- File your UI claim within four weeks of the last week you were considered disabled and were compensated by *Worker's Compensation and*
- Attempted to return to work for the employer where the injury/disability happened.

Benefit Year – We establish a **Benefit Year** when you file your claim. This is a twelve-month period beginning with the Sunday of the week in which you filed your first claim for benefits. During this year, you may collect benefits up to your maximum award *or* until your benefit year expires, whichever occurs first. If you use all of your unemployment insurance benefits during a benefit year, you cannot start a new benefit year with Arizona until the current benefit year has ended. If you have wage credits in another state, you may be eligible to file with that state as long as you did not previously use those wage credits. An unemployment insurance customer service representative can advise you of the benefit eligibility requirements of other states.

Subsequent benefit year - If you file a claim for a second benefit year, you will need to show proof that you worked after the effective date of the first benefit year and earned a total amount equal to eight times the weekly benefit amount of your new claim. This means that you cannot have a subsequent benefit year without having been reemployed.

Wage Statement - When you file your claim, we send you a Wage Statement. The Wage Statement will list the wages reported by your employer(s) for your Social Security number during the **Base Period** of your claim (*see Base Period chart*). It will also show the total and weekly benefit amounts you may receive if you meet all of the eligibility requirements. Look over your Wage Statement carefully when you receive it. If wages are missing or incorrect, you should file a wage protest so appropriate action can be taken.

Filing wage protests – You should file a wage protest if you do not agree with the wages reported or with the employers listed on your Wage Statement. You must file a wage protest within ten (10) working days from the date on your Wage Statement. Call us immediately or complete the [Wage Protest Form UB-217](#) available at www.azui.com and email it to uitaxwage.protest@azdes.gov. Continue to file weekly claims while your protest is being considered. *If you receive benefits based upon wages that you did not earn, you will be liable for repayment, and other penalties may be imposed.*

Benefit Award - The maximum amount of unemployment insurance benefits that you may be eligible to receive during the benefit year depends upon the total amount of your wages reported in your base period. The maximum amount payable is one-third of your total base period wages. This amount cannot total more than 26 times your weekly benefit amount.

Your weekly benefit amount is calculated by taking 4% of the wages paid to you in the highest quarter of the base period. The maximum weekly benefit amount is \$240.00.

Wages earned by most school employees, school contract provider employees, or private school bus contractors - You may not collect benefits based on wages earned from most educational employers when you:

- Are between regular school terms or during a vacation period, *and*
- Expect to return to work for the next school year or term.

Employees of seasonal lodging establishments - If you worked for a business with a “transient lodging classification” like hotels, motels, RV parks, or dude ranches, you may not be eligible to collect benefits if you are laid off due to a seasonal slowdown. An employer must meet defined criteria, apply each year for this classification, and provide written notice to all employees when hired that they may not be eligible for UI benefits.

DENIAL OF BENEFITS

All decisions about your eligibility to receive unemployment insurance benefits are based on the laws, rules and policies of the State of Arizona.

Disqualifications -. If you are disqualified, you will be mailed a written notice explaining the reason. Some examples of disqualification are:

- You quit your last job without good reason as defined by Department policy
- You lost your last job for misconduct
- You refuse an offer or referral to work
- You are untruthful about the facts on your claim
- You fail to make a diligent effort to find suitable work

Severance, vacation, holiday, or sick pay – You must report severance, vacation, holiday, or sick pay when you file your initial claim. These payments may be deducted as earnings from your weekly benefit amount. You are not eligible to receive unemployment insurance for any week that this amount is greater than your weekly benefit amount. If you receive any such payments *after* you file your initial claim, report them immediately.

Pension, annuity or retirement – You must report any pension, annuity or retirement payments when you file your initial claim. These payments may be deducted from your benefits depending on your circumstances. If you begin to receive any such payments *after* you file your claim, report them immediately.

FILING WEEKLY CONTINUED CLAIMS

In order to receive benefits, you must file a weekly continued claim regardless of your eligibility status. All weekly continued claims for unemployment insurance are for a calendar week. A calendar week is a period of seven (7) consecutive days beginning at 12:01 a.m. Sunday and ending 12:00 midnight on the following Saturday. **You cannot file your next weekly continued claim until the prior week has ended.**

Reporting work and wages - If you work or earn any money, *you must report the total amount you earned before deductions* when you file your weekly claim. You must report any work you do during a week, *even if* you have not been paid at the time you file your weekly claim.

When you report earnings, you must include tips, meals, lodging, merchandise, or any other kind of payment you receive for services. You must report any payment for showing up to work or for processing time even if you did not work. You must report any partial or temporary employment, commission sales, odd jobs, or self-employment. The sale of personal items does not count as wages or payment for services.

You may earn up to \$30.50 in a week without affecting your weekly benefit. If you earn over \$30.50 in a week, we will deduct each dollar in earnings over that amount from your weekly benefit amount. The following example shows how your earnings affect your benefit:

Weekly Benefit Amount	\$ 240.00
Earnings	<u>-72.79</u>
Sub-Total	167.21
\$30.00 allowance	<u>+30.00</u>
Adjusted Weekly Benefit Amount	\$197.21
Payable Amount	\$197.00

We round the benefit payable to the nearest dollar; *we round \$.50 or more to the next higher dollar*. If you have earnings equal to or greater than your weekly benefit amount, we will not pay you benefits for that week.

Child Support payments - If you are responsible for child support payments, the Division of Child Support Enforcement may deduct a portion of your weekly benefit amount. Any amount deducted as child support is part of the unemployment insurance benefits paid to you.

Filing through the Internet - Go to the Unemployment Insurance website (www.azui.com) and click on "File Your Weekly UI Claims." Follow the instructions provided. Weekly continued claims can be filed Sunday through 6:00 P.M. Friday.

All the questions pertain to the previous week you are claiming. For example, when asked if you worked or earned any money, you are being asked this for the week you are claiming. When asked if you looked for work, a page will be displayed for you to enter specific information about the employers you contacted during the week you are claiming benefits. ***If you did not make work search contacts on at least four different days of the week, you will be given the opportunity to decline to file for the week. If you choose to file without meeting the work search requirements, you will be disqualified for the duration of your unemployment and until you return to work and earn eight times your weekly benefit amount and you become unemployed again through no fault of your own.***

The following questions will be asked:

- Were you able to work each regular workday?
- Were you available for work each regular workday?
- Did you look for work?
- Did you refuse any job offer or referral to work?
- Did you work or earn any money? If "yes" then:
 - What were your gross earnings before deductions?
 - Are you still working? If "no" then:
 - Was your separation due to lack of work or a reduction in force?
 - Name of the company you separated from?
 - What was your last day of work?
- Have you returned to full-time work which will not require you to file any further weekly claims at this time?
- Do you decline to file for the week? (This only applies if you did not meet the work search requirements).

You will be asked to confirm that your responses are true. If any answers raise an eligibility issue, you will receive a message stating that "Benefits cannot be paid at this time due to an unresolved issue". This does not mean you have been denied benefits. We will mail you a questionnaire. Answer *all* questions completely and provide all requested information.

Your answers will help determine your eligibility. *You must continue to file each week* to keep your claim active.

Certification* - *Do you certify that you are unemployed except for any wages you may have reported and that there have been no changes in your personal circumstances which could affect your eligibility except for changes which you have reported verbally, in writing, or through the Internet? Do you further understand that the law provides penalties for false statements in connection with the claim and do you certify that all the answers that you have given are true?*

*You must respond to the certification statement before your claim will be considered filed. If you are disconnected before you respond to the statement, you must log on again to file your claim for the week.

If you do not have access to the Internet – You may request that a claim form (UB-106-A) be mailed to you. Complete, sign, and date this form. You will have to mail or fax this form back to us every week. *This method will result in a delay in payment of benefits because of mailing and processing time.*

Using the Telephone Information and Payment System (TIPS) – The TIPS line is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The number is listed on the last page of this pamphlet. You can use the TIPS line to check the following information:

The latest payment made to you, or information about the last week you filed if you did not receive a payment.

The balance remaining on your current claim.

You may hear one of the following recorded messages when accessing the inquiry option through the **TIPS** line. Several messages require that you take some type of action:

- Benefits cannot be paid at this time because of an unresolved issue on your claim. This does not mean you have been denied benefits, but rather that an issue(s) is under review. If further information is needed you will be contacted.
- Benefits were not paid because deductions exceeded your weekly benefit amount.
- Benefits were not paid because the week claimed was your waiting week.
- Benefits were not paid because you have been disqualified or held ineligible for the period claimed. Continue to file if you have an appeal pending and remain unemployed.
- Your claim for weekly benefits cannot be processed at this time because our records show: (1) you do not have an active (or current) unemployment claim or (2) you did not file at least one weekly certification claim. If you do not file a weekly claim, you cannot file a claim for the following week.
- A payment was not issued because benefits were used toward re-payment of an overpayment.
- Benefits have not been paid because your claim is monetarily ineligible. If you believe your wages to be in error, call a customer service representative.
- You were not issued a payment because you have exhausted your benefits. For further assistance, call a customer service representative.

Reset your PIN by selecting the appropriate option – This option can be used if you have forgotten your PIN or have been denied access to TIPS because of incorrect PIN entry.

Obtain payment information for the prior calendar year – By selecting this option, you can obtain the amount paid to you as unemployment compensation during the prior calendar year. This information is reported to you in January on the Internal Revenue Service Form 1099-G, Copy B, and must be reported on your income tax return. This information is also available on the TIPS line beginning in February for the previous calendar year.

APPEALS

You have the right to file an appeal on any determination or decision that denies you benefits. Read the Appeal Rights on the determination or decision carefully. The appeal must be filed within the time period specified on the determination or decision. If mailed, the date of your appeal is the postmark on your letter. If your appeal is submitted any other way (in person, online, fax, email, telephone, etc.) the date we receive it is the date of your appeal. Time limits for appeals are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| • Determination of Deputy | 15 calendar days |
| • Decision of Appeal Tribunal | 30 calendar days |
| • Decision of Appeals Board | 30 calendar days |
| • Appeals Board Decision Upon Review | 30 calendar days |

If your appeal is late for any reason, you must include a written explanation of the reason for the late filing.

An appeal from a Determination of Deputy or a Determination of Overpayment can be filed:

- By calling the number shown on the front of the determination.
- On the Internet by accessing www.azui.com online, then clicking on the “File an Appeal” option.
- By writing a letter. Be sure to include your name and Social Security Number and if possible, attach a copy of the determination or decision you are appealing. Written appeals may be mailed to the address or faxed to the number on your determination.

- By taking your appeal in person to an Employment Service Office or One Stop partner office of the Department of Economic Security (DES).

ELIGIBILITY REVIEW

We may select your claim for an *Eligibility Review*. If we mail you a notice, you must follow the reporting instructions on the notice. If you do not follow the instructions, we may delay or deny your benefits. We may verify your work search by contacting employers on your work search list.

CLAIMS AUDIT

We may randomly select your claim for a claims audit at any time during your benefit year. We do this to ensure that your unemployment insurance claim was processed correctly. If you are selected, the audit will include a review of your:

- Base period earnings
- Reason for separation from recent and previous employers
- Claims payment history
- Work search efforts
- Other weekly eligibility requirements

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If your address changes, you must notify the Department prior to filing your weekly claim. *You will be required to provide your PIN and Social Security Number when you update your address.* You can report your change of address by calling a customer service representative. You can also download the necessary form and instructions from <https://www.azdes.gov/main.aspx?menu=317&id=4060>.

OVERPAYMENTS

By law, you must repay any benefits that you were not legally entitled to receive. The total amount due may also include penalty and interest. There are three types of overpayments:

- Administrative/Departmental, no fault on your part
- Non-Fraud, you are at fault but did not intend to defraud
- Fraud, you intended to collect UI benefits to which you were not entitled

You may request a waiver of repayment for any *administrative* overpayment. You may also request that only 50% of your weekly benefit amount be used to repay a *non-fraud* overpayment. We will recover 100% of overpayments due to *fraud* and you are not eligible to receive *any* benefits until all overpayment principal, penalties and interest have been paid. You may be subject to other penalties including fines and imprisonment.

If you receive a *Notice of Overpayment*, you may request a fact-finding review by calling or writing the Benefit Payment Control Unit at the telephone number or address shown on the front of the form. You must make this request within five days – excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or state holidays – from the date of the notice. Please include your Social Security Number and current telephone number when you submit a written request for review. *We cannot accept collect calls.*

If you receive a *Determination of Overpayment* you may file an appeal as outlined in the Appeals section above. We may apply all or part of your benefit payment toward an outstanding overpayment amount. Your Federal Income Tax refund, your Arizona State Income Tax refund, or your Arizona Lottery winnings may also be applied toward an outstanding overpayment.

Arizona has also entered into an agreement with other states in the *Agreement for Interstate Reciprocal Overpayment Recovery Arrangement*. Through this agreement, all or part of any UI payment in one state may be applied toward an outstanding overpayment in another state.

TAXABLE BENEFITS

Federal law requires you to report unemployment insurance benefits on your federal income tax return and you may have federal and state income taxes withheld from your benefit payments. At the end of the year, we will send you a statement (Form 1099-G) showing the total benefits paid.

To ensure that you will receive your statement, please report any change of address, even if you discontinue filing. You can report your change of address by calling a customer service representative. You can also download the necessary form and instructions from <https://www.azdes.gov/main.aspx?menu=317&id=4060>.

The Internal Revenue Service will provide detailed instructions for completing your federal income tax return. For more information, see IRS Publication 505, or the instructions to Form 1040-ES.

DISCRIMINATION IS PROHIBITED

Pursuant to U.S. Department of Labor Regulations, the recipient, the Department of Economic Security (DES) shall not deny or fail to provide services to a claimant/beneficiary because of his/her race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief and, for beneficiaries only, citizenship or participation in programs funded under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), as amended, in admission or access to, opportunity or treatment in, or employment in the administration of, or in connection with any JTPA-funded program or activity, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and its implementing regulation at 29 CFR Part 31, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (Partial), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and its implementing regulations at 29 CFR Part 32, Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (Partial), Title II, Subtitle A, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and section 167 of the JTPA Act and its implementing regulations at 29 CFR Part 34. If you feel you have been denied participation in or benefits from Unemployment Insurance or Job Service on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation or belief, and, for beneficiaries only, citizenship or participation in programs funded in whole or in part by JTPA, you have the right to file a complaint of discrimination. You may write to the U.S. Department of Labor, Civil Rights Center, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-4123, Washington, DC 20210-0001. The complaint shall be filed not later than 180 days from the date of the alleged violation, unless the time for filing is extended by the Civil Rights Center (CRC) for good cause shown.

You may also file a complaint directly with DES, Office of Equal Opportunity, Site 049Z, Room 109, 1717 W. Jefferson St., Phoenix, AZ 85007.

If you elect to file your complaint with the recipient, you must wait until the recipient issues a decision or until 60 days have passed, whichever is sooner, before filing a complaint with the CRC at the address above. If the recipient has not provided you with a written decision within 60 days of filing of the complaint, you need not wait for a decision to be issued, but may file a complaint with the CRC within 30 days of the expiration of the 60-day period. If you are dissatisfied with the recipient's resolution of your complaint, you may file a complaint with the CRC. Such a complaint must be filed within 30 days of the date you received notice of the recipient's proposed resolution.

If you believe you are being discriminated against by the Department of Economic Security because of a disability contact:

DES Office of Equal Opportunity
Site Code 049Z, Room 109
1717 W. Jefferson St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Statewide TDD/TTY 7-1-1

PRIVACY ACT

The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that you be furnished this statement because you are asked to provide your Social Security Number. Your Social Security Number is requested under the authority of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 [26 U.S.C. 85, 6011(a), 6050B, and 6109(a)], Disclosure of your Social Security Number is *mandatory* and must be furnished to process your claim for unemployment insurance. Should you decline to disclose your Social Security Number, your claim for unemployment insurance will not be processed.

Your Social Security Number will be used: (1) to process your claim and determine your eligibility for unemployment insurance, (2) to report your unemployment insurance benefits to the Internal Revenue Service as income, (3) for statistical purposes, (4) for cross-matching by public assistance agencies or other government entities in the official performance of their duties.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Although federal and state laws prohibit the revealing of information about your unemployment insurance claim to your spouse, relatives, friends, non-interested parties and private interest groups, federal legislation requires that such information will be used for other governmental purposes, including verifying eligibility for other governmental programs. Confidentiality will be the responsibility of all agencies using the information.

ADA STATEMENT

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program • Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI & VII), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008, the Department prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities, or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics and retaliation. The Department must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service or activity. For example, this means if necessary, the Department must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that the Department will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy, contact your local office manager; TTY/TDD Services: 7-1-1. • Free language assistance for DES services is available upon request. • Ayuda gratuita con traducciones relacionadas a los servicios de DES está disponible a solicitud del cliente.

If you have questions or problems with your claim, you can contact us at the telephone numbers listed below, or write to:

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Unemployment Insurance Administration
P.O. Box 29225 Phoenix, Arizona 85038-9225

When writing please include your Social Security Number.

Web Sites

Department of Economic Security (DES)

<http://www.azdes.gov>

<http://www.azui.com>

Arizona Job Connection www.azjobconnection.gov

Arizona Department of Economic Security Employment Administration

<http://www.azdes.gov/esa/>

Arizona Revised Statutes www.azleg.gov

Arizona Administrative Codes www.azsos.gov

Important Telephone Numbers

Arizona Reemployment Rapid Access (ARRA)

(outside of Maricopa and Pima County)

1-877-600-2722 (Toll Free)

1-602-364-2722 Phoenix

1-520-791-2722 Tucson

Telecommunications for the Deaf (TDD)

1-877-877-6226

(ARRA and TIPS)

Telephone Information and

Payment System (TIPS)

1-877-766-8477 (Toll Free)

1-602-417-3800 Phoenix

1-520-884-8477 Tucson

For assistance with Food, Rent, or Utilities contact:

COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

24 HOUR HELP LINE

211 Dial 2-1-1 within Arizona

Outside of Arizona dial 877-211-8661

Or go to the Web Site: www.CIRS.org



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona