



## How to File for Unemployment in Missouri

Updated 4/2/2020

The easiest way to file for unemployment in Missouri is to file online. Unemployment provides you with cash payments while you are not working. In many cases, if you have lost your job due to COVID-19 and expect to return, job search requirements will be waived. In addition, the normal one week waiting period has also been waived due to COVID-19. If you are out of work due to situations related to COVID-19, be certain to note that in your application.

You can file online at <https://uinteract.labor.mo.gov/benefits/home.do#> Due to current conditions, in-person filing is not an option; however, you can file by phone. You should have standard identification and employer information ready when you file.

Jefferson City: 573-751-9040

Kansas City: 816-889-3101

St. Louis: 314-340-4950

Springfield: 417-895-6851

Outside Local Calling Area: 800-320-2519

Fax Number: 573-751-9730

There is a [how-to video](#) to help you file for the first time and you can access a link for a benefits estimator. This does not guarantee benefits but gives you an idea of what you should expect. Your benefits are based upon your past wages. Unemployment benefits are available to both full and part time workers, as long as they meet certain earning amounts.

You should receive notification of approval within just a few days of applying. Each week, you will need to log on online or by phone to claim your benefit payment for the week. Benefits can take several weeks to begin paying.

Read all instructions carefully to make certain you will qualify to receive your benefits each week!

- You've likely heard there's an extra \$600 weekly includes in the CARES Act for individuals receiving unemployment. This is true, but the Missouri Department of Labor is still waiting on additional guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor.
- The typical benefits cap is 20 weeks of benefits. The CARES Act extends that by an additional 13 weeks, regardless of when you filed.
- The CARES Act also opens up unemployment benefits to individuals who would not typically qualify, including the self-employed and gig workers, like people driving for Uber and similar services. As with additional payments, this is still in-progress and you should expect action soon.