



Last updated: 4/8/2020

Fact Sheet on Unemployment, Stimulus Checks, and other financial assistance

Unemployment benefits

With the passing of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, unemployment coverage has been expanded and increases payment amounts for all.

- *Who is covered?*
The plan includes far more workers than are usually eligible for unemployment benefits, including self-employed people and part-time workers. This includes gig workers, freelancers and independent contractors. People who are unemployed due to a result directly related to COVID-19 will also be covered. This includes parents who have had to leave work to care of a child whose school has been closed, or an individual who's had to leave work to care for an elderly parent or another household member due to a care facility being shut down. People who have been ordered to self-quarantine by a health care provider are also covered.
- *How much will I receive?*
The state pays approximately 40-45% of your weekly income, with a maximum of \$450/week. The expansion will pay an extra amount to fill the gap. Eligible workers will get an extra \$600/week on top of their state benefit.
- *How do I apply?*
You can apply for unemployment benefits online, or by mailing or faxing the application to the Employment Development Department. You may also apply by phone, but expect long wait times. **Online: edd.ca.gov Phone: 1-800-300-5616**

Federal Stimulus Checks

- *How much will I get and am I eligible?*
Single adults with Social Security numbers who have an adjusted gross income of \$75,000 or less will get the full amount of \$1,200. Married couples with no children earning \$150,000 or less will receive \$2,400. Taxpayers filing as head of household will get the full payment if they earned \$112,500 or less. For every qualifying child age under 16 or under, the payment will be an additional \$500. The payment decreases by \$5.00 for every \$100 above \$75,000 an individual earned.
- *How many payments will there be?*
Just one for now. Future bills could be passed for additional payments depending on the state of the pandemic.
- *Do I need to do anything to receive the payment and how is my income determined?*
No you do not need to do anything. If you have filed your taxes for 2019, the info obtained there will be used. If not, your 2018 tax filing will be used to calculate your stimulus check.