



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov

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Iowans' Unemployment and Injury Benefits Increase

DES MOINES – Iowa Workforce Development announced an increase to the amount of maximum weekly benefits paid to unemployed Iowans and to workers injured on the job. The new benefit payment schedules apply to individuals who file new unemployment insurance claims for the week beginning July 5, 2020, and to workers injured on or after July 1, 2020. Individuals currently receiving benefits from state or federal programs will continue to receive the same weekly benefit amount.

An increase in the amount of wages covered by unemployment insurance triggered the rise in benefits. The average annual wage for insured Iowa workers increased to \$48,455.86 in 2019, up from \$47,290.57 in 2018.

Under Iowa law, the number of people covered by unemployment insurance and their gross wages are primary elements of a formula Iowa Workforce Development uses each year to compute maximum and minimum benefit amounts paid to jobless workers. The new rates are:

Number of Dependents	Maximum Percentage of Statewide Average Weekly Wage	Maximum Weekly Benefit Amount Effective 7-5-2020	Minimum Weekly Benefit Amount Effective 7-5-2020	Current Maximum Weekly Benefit Effective 7-7-2019
0	53	\$ 493.00	\$ 73.00	\$ 481.00
1	55	\$ 512.00	\$ 77.00	\$ 500.00
2	57	\$ 531.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 518.00
3	60	\$ 559.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 545.00
4 or more	65	\$ 605.00	\$ 89.00	\$ 591.00

Iowa Workforce Development officials noted that about half of those eligible for unemployment insurance benefits have enough earnings to qualify for the maximum benefit. The 2021 taxable wage base will be \$32,400.

Beginning July 1, the workers' compensation maximum weekly benefit for temporary total disability, healing period, permanent total disability and death will rise to \$1,864. For permanent partial disability, the weekly maximum will be \$1,715.

Information about the weekly benefits is available in the 2019 Unemployment Insurance Claimant Handbook at www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov

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An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.

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