

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 27, 2022 www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov Media Contact Jesse Dougherty, 515-725-5487 communications@iwd.iowa.gov

IowaWORKS.gov Website Remains Down Due to External, Vendor-Related Outage

IWD Develops Temporary Solution to Avoid Delays in Unemployment Payments

DES MOINES – The Iowa*WORKS.gov* website outage involving the agency's web vendor, which has been ongoing since Sunday, is expected to last at least another day. This will **not** impact unemployment benefit payments, Iowa Workforce Development announced today.

The outage is disrupting the weekly continuing unemployment claims and jobs search process for claimants. (New unemployment claims are unaffected since they are filed solely through IWD's central website, <u>lowaWorkforceDevelopment.gov</u>). In the meantime, to avoid any delay in processing unemployment benefits, lowa Workforce Development officials are implementing a temporary solution for unemployment claimants to file their weekly claims.

- Unemployment claimants should bypass the customary process of reporting work search activities on IowaWORKS.gov and instead **go directly** to <u>uiclaims.iwd.iowa.gov/weeklyclaims</u> to file their weekly claims.
- Claimants still should report work search activities on the <u>lowaWORKS.gov</u> site once it resumes activity. But for the week of June 26, the failure to do so will not impact the viability of any claim.

"This unfortunate outage is a problem that our vendor is working hard to fix, and we hope to have the Iowa*WORKS*.gov website back serving Iowans very soon," said Beth Townsend, Director of Iowa Workforce Development.

Unemployment claimants with questions or concerns about their claims should contact the IWD customer service line at <u>uiclaimshelp@iwd.iowa.gov</u> or 1-866-239-0843. A call-back option is also available.

Due to the job search outage, unemployed lowans are also encouraged to contact their local lowa*WORKS* centers for assistance or visit third-party job sites for employment opportunities.

This is an ongoing issue, and we will provide additional information as the situation develops. For more, watch for alerts at <u>lowaWorkforceDevelopment.gov</u> and on the lowa Workforce Development social media accounts.

###

An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

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

www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov

A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter network