



1           D. For all valid unemployment compensation claims submitted during a  
2           calendar year, the maximum duration of benefits shall be as follows:

3           (1) If the state average unemployment rate is five and one-half percent or  
4           less, the maximum duration of benefits shall be limited to twelve weeks.

5           (2) If the state average unemployment rate is greater than five and one-half  
6           percent but less than six percent, the maximum duration of benefits shall be limited  
7           to thirteen weeks.

8           (3) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than six  
9           percent but less than six and one-half percent, the maximum duration of benefits  
10          shall be limited to fourteen weeks.

11          (4) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than six and  
12          one-half percent but less than seven percent, the maximum duration of benefits shall  
13          be limited to fifteen weeks.

14          (5) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than seven  
15          percent but less than seven and one-half percent, the maximum duration of benefits  
16          shall be limited to sixteen weeks.

17          (6) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than seven  
18          and one-half percent but less than eight percent, the maximum duration of benefits  
19          shall be limited to seventeen weeks.

20          (7) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than eight  
21          percent but less than eight and one-half percent, the maximum duration of benefits  
22          shall be limited to eighteen weeks.

23          (8) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than eight  
24          and one-half percent but less than nine percent, the maximum duration of benefits  
25          shall be limited to nineteen weeks.

26          (9) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than nine  
27          percent but less than ten percent, the maximum duration of benefits shall be limited  
28          to twenty weeks.



1           (d) Completing job applications for employers that have, or are reasonably  
2           expected to have, job openings or following through on job referrals, as directed by  
3           the department.

4           (e) Applying for or participating in employment and training services  
5           provided by partner programs in job centers.

6           (f) Participating in work-related networking events, such as job clubs, job  
7           fairs, industry association events, or networking groups.

8           (g) Making contacts with or in-person visits to employers that have, or are  
9           reasonably expected to have, job openings.

10          (h) Taking a civil service examination.

11          (i) Going to interviews with employers, either in-person or virtually.

12          (j) Performing any other work search activities prescribed or allowed by  
13          rules promulgated by the department.

14          B. The administrator shall do all of the following:

15           (1) Require an individual, at the time of application for unemployment  
16           benefits and weekly thereafter, to provide proof of all his work search activities.

17           (2) Verify submission of proof of work search activities by individuals  
18           applying for or receiving unemployment benefits.

19           (3) Determine any individual who fails to perform work search activities, or  
20           provide proof of work search activities as required by this Section, ineligible to  
21           receive unemployment benefits unless the individual can reasonably explain his  
22           failure to do so or timely remedy the failure to provide proof of his work search  
23           activities.

24          C. The administrator shall have discretion to determine the sufficiency of all  
25          of the following:

26           (1) Any submission of proof of work search activities.

27           (2) Any explanation of a failure to submit proof of work search activities.

28           (3) Any explanation of an inaccuracy identified in the submitted proof of  
29           work search activities.

1           (4) Any determination that an individual has otherwise complied with the  
2           requirements of this Section.

3           D. The administrator, while utilizing existing resources, shall do all of the  
4           following:

5           (1) Establish a process where the department will share open positions  
6           submitted to or posted by the department or any other state-administered job board  
7           by employers directly with individuals applying for or receiving unemployment  
8           benefits.

9           (2) Establish a process to assist individuals who are applying for or receiving  
10           unemployment benefits in securing suitable work. The department shall refer  
11           individuals applying for or receiving unemployment benefits to such open job  
12           positions, including facilitating contact between employers and those individuals and  
13           monitoring whether those individuals are sufficiently responsive to the job referral.

14           E. If an individual, who is applying for or is receiving unemployment  
15           benefits, receives a job referral from the department for a job that is considered  
16           suitable, as determined by the administrator, he shall apply for that job within one  
17           week of receiving the job referral and accept employment if offered.

18           F.(1) An employer shall submit to the administrator a report documenting  
19           the refusal of any individual, who receives unemployment benefits and job referrals,  
20           to accept an offer of employment.

21           (2) The report shall be made in writing and signed by the employer and in  
22           a manner prescribed by the administrator.

23           (3) The report shall become part of the file of the individual's claim for  
24           benefits.

25           G. Individuals receiving unemployment benefits who accept a referral to a  
26           part-time open position or otherwise accepted part-time employment for which the  
27           wages are less than his weekly benefit rate shall continue to receive unemployment  
28           benefits without reduction for those wages for the duration of his benefits period.





- (4) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than 6.5% but less than 7%, a claimant can claim unemployment benefits up to 15 weeks.
- (5) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than 7% but less than 7.5%, a claimant can claim unemployment benefits up to 16 weeks.
- (6) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than 7.5% but less than 8%, a claimant can claim unemployment benefits up to 17 weeks.
- (7) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than 8% but less than 8.5%, a claimant can claim unemployment benefits up to 18 weeks.
- (8) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than 8.5% but less than 9%, a claimant can claim unemployment benefits up to 19 weeks.
- (9) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than 9% but less than 10%, a claimant can claim unemployment benefits up to 20 weeks.
- (10) If the state average unemployment rate is equal to or greater than 10%, a claimant can claim unemployment benefits up to 26 weeks.

Proposed law provides that the La. Workforce Commission (LWC) shall promulgate all rules and regulations as are necessary for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of proposed law.

Present law provides the requirements that a claimant for unemployment benefits must meet in order to be eligible for unemployment benefits. Present law further provides that one of the aforementioned requirements is that a claimant must be able to work, available for work, and is conducting an active search for work.

Proposed law extends the aforementioned ability and availability to work requirement and actively searching for work requirement to coincided with the job and reemployment provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law requires that in addition to being in compliance with all other eligibility requirements provided for in present law, an individual shall be eligible and remain eligible for unemployment compensation benefits only if he actively seeks, and continues to seek, work by conducting at least four work search activities weekly.

Proposed law provides a thorough list of what constitutes as a sufficient work search activity.

Proposed law provides that the administrator (secretary of LWC) shall do all of the following:

- (1) Require an individual, at the time for applying for unemployment benefits and weekly thereafter, to provide proof of all work search activities.
- (2) Verify submission of proof of work search activities by individuals applying for or receiving unemployment benefits.
- (3) Determine any individual who fails to perform work search activities, or provide proof of work search activities, to be ineligible for unemployment benefits, unless the individual can reasonably explain his failure to do so or timely remedy his failure to provide such proof.

Proposed law provides that the secretary of LWC shall have the discretion to determine the sufficiency of all of the following:

- (1) Any submission of proof of work search activities.
- (2) Any explanation of a failure to submit proof of work search activities.
- (3) Any explanation of an inaccuracy identified in the submitted proof of work search activities.
- (4) Any determination that an individual has otherwise complied with the requirements of proposed law.

Proposed law provides that if an individual, who is applying for or receiving unemployment benefits, receives job referrals from LWC to a job that is considered suitable, he must apply for that job within one week of receiving the job referral and accept employment if offered.

Proposed law requires an employer to submit a report documenting any refusal to accept an offer of employment, by an individual who receive unemployment benefits and job referrals, to the secretary of LWC.

Proposed law further requires that the aforementioned report be in writing and signed by the employer and that the report will become a part of the individual's file.

Proposed law provides that if an individual, who is receiving unemployment benefits, accepts a part-time job position and his wages or less than his weekly unemployment benefit amount, then he will continue to receive unemployment benefits without reduction for those wages for the duration of his benefits period.

Proposed law exempts individuals serving on jury duty, receiving vocational training as provided for in present law, and members in good standing of a union that refers its members to employment from a union hall from the provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law requires LWC to notify individuals seeking benefits, at the time an initial claim is filed and at any other time during the benefit year that the requirements substantively change, of the obligation to actively seek work. Proposed law further requires that the notice be delivered in the method selected by the individual, which can include postal mail or email.

Proposed law provides that the notification shall include, at a minimum, all of the following:

- (1) The type of work search activities that are acceptable.
- (2) The number of work search activities that are required in any week.
- (3) The requirement that work search activities be documented.
- (4) The requirement to apply, and accept if offered, a suitable job position.

Present law creates the unemployment insurance integrity program, which provides a list of requirements for LWC to complete in order to verify the eligibility of claims and to prevent fraudulent filing and payment of claims.

Proposed law extends the aforementioned requirements by requiring LWC to verify the identity of unemployment claimants by methods, including but not limited to verifying the

identity of an applicant prior to awarding benefits and requiring a multi-factor authentication as part of online applications.

Effective Jan. 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 23:1600(3)(a) 1605(C)(6) and (H); Adds R.S. 23:1595(C), (D), and (E) and 1600.1)