



October 4, 2018

Unemployment Bulletin

Disaster Unemployment Assistance expanded again in parts of North Carolina

SITUATION: In a press release dated September 29, 2018, the North Carolina Division of Employment Security (DES) announced Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) has been **expanded** again to include Greene County. This latest county is in addition to the 27 previously declared. Additional counties may be added as recovery efforts continue. Should coverage be expanded, we will communicate that to you as it becomes available.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: Hurricane Florence began affecting the region on September 14, 2018. A Presidential declaration of disaster was put into effect making DUA funding available. The deadline for filing a DUA claim in this **additional** county, Greene, is **October 29, 2018**. After this date, the claim will not be considered timely and will not be honored. Claims are being taken by the DES at <https://des.nc.gov/des> or by calling 866/795-8877 between 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday through Friday.

More information on this latest DUA expansion, and the federal DUA program at large, can be found by clicking [here](#).

In a prior Unemployment Bulletins dated September 24 and 27, 2018, we provided information on the initial 27 counties for which DUA was previously declared. In a recap:

The deadline for filing a claim is **October 17, 2018** for the following 8 counties: Beaufort, Brunswick, Carteret, Craven, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico and Pender.

The deadline for filing a claim is **October 18, 2018** for the following 10 counties: Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, Harnett, Lenoir, Jones, Robeson, Sampson, and Wayne.

The deadline for filing a claim is **October 25, 2018** for the following 9 counties: Hoke, Hyde, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Pitt, Richmond, Scotland, and Wilson.

DUA benefits are only payable during the Disaster Assistance Period (DAP) not to exceed 26 weeks. The weekly benefit amount for which the person may be eligible is determined by the governing laws in the state in which the claim was filed. Any benefits claimed under the DUA program are 100% federally funded which means employers' UI accounts will not be charged. While employer chargeability for regular UI that is related to a disaster varies from state to state, North Carolina statute provides for relief of charges to affected merit rated employers. **This relief of charges provision does not apply to reimbursing employers. As with all UI claims in North Carolina, regular UI claims filed as a result of this disaster will be subject to a 1-week waiting period.**

ACTION STEPS: More information on the DUA program can be found at:
<http://workforcsecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/disaster.asp>

It bears repeating that the deadline for filing DUA claims related to Hurricane Florence vary by county and are listed above.