



October 4, 2018

Unemployment Bulletin

Disaster Unemployment Assistance expanded again in parts of South Carolina

SITUATION: In a press release dated October 3, 2018, the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) announced Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) has been **expanded** again to 2 additional counties. These latest counties include: Darlington and Florence which are in addition to the 6 that were 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 above counties 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 these **additional 2** counties is **November 2, 2018**.

After these respective dates, the claim will not be considered timely and will not be honored. Claims are being taken by the DEW at <https://dew.sc.gov/> or by calling 866/831-1724.

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

In prior Unemployment Bulletins dated September 25 and 28, 2018, we provided information on the 6 counties for which DUA was previously declared. In a recap:

The deadline for filing a claim is **October 24, 2018** for the following 4 counties: Dillon, Horry, Marion, and Marlboro.

The deadline for filing a claim is **October 25, 2018** for Chesterfield County.

The deadline for filing a claim is **October 26, 2018** for Georgetown County.

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, South 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 South Carolina, regular UI claims filed as a result of this disaster will be subject to a 1-week waiting period (if not already served in his/her current benefit year).**

ACTION STEPS: More information on the DUA program can be found at:

<http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/disaster.asp>

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