

## File a Claim

If you've lost your job in Hawaii, you can File a Claim at the [Hawaii Unemployment Insurance Division's website](#).

## Eligibility

You must be unemployed through no fault of your own, as defined by Hawaii law. Here are the three primary ways you may lose your job and how each relates to your Eligibility for benefits:

- **Layoffs** due to “downsizing” or a reduction-in-force will qualify you for benefits.
- **Firing** for reasons related to misconduct makes you ineligible for benefits. However, if you're fired simply because you weren't a good fit or lacked the skills to perform the job, you may be able to collect.
- **Quitting** your job will make you ineligible for benefits unless your work environment had become so hostile you felt you had to leave (e.g., sexual harassment).

You must have made a certain amount of money before losing your job, which is calculated by your base period. Your base period is the earliest four of the five completed calendar quarters before you filed your benefits claim. For example, if your claim was filed on Oct. 10, 2019, your base period would be the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019. In Hawaii, in order to be eligible, you must meet the following wage requirements:

- You must have wages in at least two quarters of the base period.
- You must have wages of least 26 times your weekly benefit amount in your base period.

You must be able to work, available to work and seeking employment. If you find a suitable position, you must accept it. Suitability varies depending on your skill set, training, salary and more. Over time, if you still haven't found work, you may have to compromise on a job that doesn't quite match what you were doing before.

## Duration of Benefits

Hawaii residents can collect unemployment benefits for a maximum of 26, with additional weeks during times of high unemployment.

## Weekly Benefit Rate

In 2019, you could receive somewhere between \$5 per week and \$630 per week.