

File a Claim

If you've lost your job in Missouri, you can File a Claim at [Missouri's official website](#).

Eligibility

You must be unemployed through no fault of your own, as defined by Missouri 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 you can prove there was a compelling work-related reason that forced you to leave (e.g., sexual harassment, dangerous working conditions, relocation with a military spouse).

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 Missouri, in order to be eligible, you must meet one of the following requirements:

- You must earn at least \$2,250 during the base period and your total base period wages must be at least one-and-a-half times higher than the taxable wage base during at least two of your base period quarters.
- You must earn at least one-and-a-half times more than the taxable wage base during at least two of the four base period quarters.

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

Missouri residents can collect unemployment benefits for a maximum of 20 weeks.

Weekly Benefit Rate

You can receive a maximum of \$320 per week.