NC DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)



What is Disaster Unemployment Assistance?
If you are unemployed as a direct result of a federally declared disaster, you may be eligible for Disaster Unemployment Assistance.

DUA is a federal program that provides temporary payments for people who, as a direct result of a disaster, meet one of the following conditions:

- No longer have the job that provided their primary source of income.
- Are unable to reach their place of unemployment.
- Cannot work because of an injury caused by the storm.
- Were unable to begin employment or self-employment due to the storm.
- Have become the major supplier of household income due to a storm-related death of the previous major supplier of household income.

The Division of Employment Security (DES) will review your eligibility for benefits. You may be asked to provide proof that you meet one of these conditions.

Am I eligible for DUA?
People, self-employed people or business owners may be eligible for DUA if:

- You lived, worked or were scheduled to work in an area declared a disaster area by the President of the United States;
- You lost employment or had your employment interrupted as a direct result of the disaster; and
- You have exhausted or are not eligible for state unemployment benefits.

Eligibility for DUA is determined weekly. You must continue to be out of work as a direct result of the disaster each week to receive benefits.

— See back for more information —

What do I need to apply?

- Name and address of all employers you worked with within the last 24 months.
- County of residence.
- County of employment.
- Mailing address and ZIP code.
- Valid telephone number.
- Your Social Security number or your Alien Registration number.
- Have proof of employment and income if you're self-employed, a farmer, or a commercial fisher.

How do I apply?

When there is a federal disaster in North Carolina, the DES will announce the areas in which DUA benefits are available and deadlines for applying.

The fastest way to file a claim is to file online at des.nc.gov. If you need help, you may file over the phone by calling the DUA Hotline at 919-629-3857.

1. Go to des.nc.gov.
2. Create a MyNCUIBenefits account. View more details: des.nc.gov/create-and-online-account-english/open.
3. Sign in to file your claim.
4. Click **File a New Unemployment Insurance Claim**. File for state unemployment benefits and DUA during the same claim process.
   - If you are eligible for state benefits, you must exhaust those benefits before you can receive DUA.
   - If you are not eligible for state benefits, DES will determine if you are eligible for DUA benefits.
5. When filing your claim, select **A federally-declared disaster** when asked to give a reason for unemployment.
6. If you are self-employed, a farmer or a commercial fisher, you must provide proof of employment and income within 21 days of filing your claim.
7. DES notifies you once your eligibility is determined.

You must **complete a Weekly Certification** for every week you are filing for unemployment to get payments. If you earned any wages during the week, you must report them on your Weekly Certification.