The Federal CARES Act was signed into law March 27, 2020. The Act provides Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) for Maryland Residents.

Expanded eligibility for individuals who have traditionally been ineligible for Unemployment Benefits such as self-employed workers, independent contractors, those not eligible for regular unemployment.

Are you someone not eligible for traditional Unemployment Benefits? Ask yourself these questions and follow these steps to receive PUA benefits:

How do I know if I qualify?

**FIRST**, you must be a self-employed worker, independent contractor, or someone else not eligible for regular unemployment.

**SECOND**, do you answer yes to one of the following questions:

- Did your place of employment close due to COVID-19?
- Are you unable to go to your job because you are being advised to self-quarantine?
- Are you now taking care of a child or household member no longer able to attend their school or facility because of COVID-19 and their attendance is required for you to be able to work?
- Are you unable to reach your place of employment due to COVID-19?
- Did you quit your job because of COVID-19?
- Have you or a member of your household been diagnosed with COVID-19?
- Are you now the main support for your household because the head of household died from COVID-19?
- Are you experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and seeking diagnosis?
- Are you providing care for a family or household member with COVID-19?
- Were you scheduled to begin working but no longer have that job or cannot reach it because of COVID-19?
How to Apply in Maryland? (FOLLOW THIS PROCESS)

Maryland has created the BEACON One-Stop application where Claimants can use the application to file ALL claims for regular unemployment benefits and PUA applications.

Find Application at: https://beacon.labor.maryland.gov/beacon/claimant-page.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Information Needed for Claiming Unemployment Benefits:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Your Social Security number</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Your address, telephone number, and email address</td>
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<tr>
<td>• If you were in the military within the last 18 months, your DD214 - Member 4 document</td>
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<tr>
<td>• If you are a former Federal Government Employee Form 50 or SF-8, if available</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Name, Date of Birth, and Social Security number for each dependent</td>
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Because you are filing a PUA application, additional information may be required:

If you are self-employed, an independent contractor, or a gig worker, acceptable documentation for proof of employment or self-employment can include, but is not limited to:

- Business Registration or Charter
- Business Formation Papers
- Independent Contractor Agreement
- Summary of Quarterly Payments
- Profit and Loss Statement
- Accounts Receivable Statement
- Evidence of your 2019 Income (e.g. 1099, Schedule K-1, Schedule C)

FEDERAL PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (FPUC)

An additional $600 per week, on top of regular benefits, to all UC, PEUC, and recipients.

Approved for PUA benefits? What should you do for FPUC?

Do nothing – your benefit will automatically be updated after it is determined that you are eligible for Unemployment Benefits, either traditional or PUA.

- What you may qualify to receive:
  - An additional $600/week until July 31, 2020 (beginning April 4, 2020)

For a detailed Question and Answer provided by the MD Department of Labor visit:
http://www.dllr.state.md.us/employment/uibeaconfaqs.pdf

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