

April Lynch, Deputy County Executive

### **Notice to Employees Regarding Unemployment Benefits**

As we navigate through COVID-19, Oakland County is preparing for a surge of unemployment claims by part-time, and possibly full-time employees. Please use this as a reference guide in answering questions regarding unemployment.

#### **What changes have occurred to unemployment relating to COVID-19?**

The State of Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) has implemented temporary measures to allow employed individuals to receive Unemployment benefits IF they are no longer receiving a paycheck or experience a reduction in hours due to the COVID19 pandemic.

Unemployment benefits have been extended to employees who are no longer being paid OR are experiencing a reduction in hours:

- Workers who have an unanticipated family or childcare responsibility
- Workers who are sick, quarantined, or immunocompromised and who do not have access to paid family and medical leave or are laid off
- First responders in the public health community who become ill or are quarantined due to exposure to COVID-19

Access to unemployment benefits have been extended by:

- Suspending requirements to complete in-person registration
- Suspending requirements to provide proof of seeking employment
- Increasing benefits from 20 to 26 weeks
- Increasing the time allowed to apply from 14 to 28 days from the date of lost pay

#### **Who is eligible?**

The State (UIA) will review each case and determine who is eligible. We are encouraging any employee who experiences a loss in income to apply.

#### **How can employees apply?**

Employees can apply online at [www.Michigan.gov/UIA](http://www.Michigan.gov/UIA) or by calling 1-866-500-0017. Due to the high volume of claims, we are advising employees to avoid UIA offices and attempt to apply late at night or in the early morning hours to avoid long wait times.

#### **What do employees need to apply?**

- Social security card
- State issued driver's license or ID card or a MARVIN PIN (if you already have one)
- The names and addresses of employers you worked for within the last 18 months, along with your quarterly gross earnings
- The last date of employment with each employer
- Your most recent employer's Federal Employer ID number (FEIN) and Employer Account Number (EAN)
  - **Oakland County FEIN: 386004876**
  - **Oakland County EAN: 0805069-000**
- If you are not a U.S. citizen or national, you will need your Alien Registration card and the expiration date of your work authorization