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COVID-19 PANDEMIC
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION GUIDANCE
SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS and INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE
PROVIDED SERVICES NOT CONSIDERED to be "EMPLOYMENT"

On March 17, 2020, Governor Sununu issued Emergency Order #5, regarding "Access to State unemployment benefits for individuals impacted by COVID-19." This Emergency Order was issued under the authority of the Governor's Executive Order 2020-4 dated March 13, 2020, which declared a State of Emergency due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Emergency Order #5 makes changes to State Unemployment Compensation ("UC") law to create UC eligibility for self-employed individuals and many of those individuals providing services usually excluded from eligibility for UC who have been impacted by COVID-19.

It creates eligibility for unemployment benefits for such individuals when:

- (a) The individual has a current diagnosis of COVID-19;
- (b) The individual is quarantined, including self-quarantine, at the instruction of a health care provider, employer or government official to prevent the spread of COVID-19;
- (c) The individual is caring for a family member or dependent who has COVID-19 or is under a quarantine related to COVID-19; or
- (d) The individual is caring for a family member or dependent who is unable to care for themselves due to the COVID-19 related closing of their school, child care facility or other care program.

Individuals self-employed or fitting any one of the categories described on the attached page will need their most recent Federal tax return when filing their claim for benefits in order to determine the weekly benefit amount.

If you believe you may be eligible for benefits as a result of this provision of Emergency Order #5, you should contact the New Hampshire Department of Employment Security at:

UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE HOTLINE
(603) 271-7700
FILE CLAIMS ONLINE AT:
WWW.NHES.NH.GOV