IOWA DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND APPEALS ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION, UI APPEALS BUREAU

SARA HUDDLESTON

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 22A-UI-18398-B2T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 04/05/20

Claimant: Appellant (2)

Fed Law PL 116-136, Sec. 2104 – Overpayment of FPUC

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed an appeal from the October 24, 2022, (reference 02) decision that found claimant to have been overpaid benefits. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held on November 17, 2022. The claimant did participate.

ISSUES:

Whether claimant is overpaid FPUC unemployment insurance benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The overpayment issue in this case was created by a ruling claimant was improperly paid FPUC unemployment benefits. Claimant was deemed to have a net overpayment of \$600.00 in FPUC unemployment benefits for the weeks between April 5, 2020 and July 25, 2020. Claimant admitted to receiving these payments.

Claimant was found to be overpaid unemployment benefits in case 22A-UI-18397-B2-T. Said overpayment occurred as a net overpayment as claimant had a week of an underpayment of benefits and a number of weeks of overpayments of benefits in that case. The net effect was an overpayment of \$577.00.

In case 22A-UI-18397-B2-T claimant was found to have had a week when she received unemployment benefits that she was not eligible to receive any unemployment benefits yet she received regular unemployment benefits and the supplemental \$600.00 FPUC benefit. This occurred on the week ending May 30, 2020.

Additionally, in the same matter, claimant was deemed to have been eligible to receive regular unemployment benefits for a week when a clerical error prevented her from receiving those regular benefits, and thus prevented her from receiving the supplemental \$600.00 FPUC benefit. This occurred on the week ending May 23, 2020.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

PL116-136, Sec. 2104 provides, in pertinent part:

- (b) Provisions of Agreement
- (1) Federal pandemic unemployment compensation.--Any agreement under this section shall provide that the State agency of the State will make payments of regular compensation to individuals in amounts and to the extent that they would be determined if the State law of the State were applied, with respect to any week for which the individual is (disregarding this section) otherwise entitled under the State law to receive regular compensation, as if such State law had been modified in a manner such that the amount of regular compensation (including dependents' allowances) payable for any week shall be equal to
- (A) the amount determined under the State law (before the application of this paragraph), plus
- (B) an additional amount of \$600 (in this section referred to as "Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation").

. . . .

- (f) Fraud and Overpayments
- (2) Repayment.--In the case of individuals who have received amounts of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to which they were not entitled, the State shall require such individuals to repay the amounts of such Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to the State agency except that the State agency may waive such repayment if it determines that
 - (A) the payment of such FPUC was without fault on the part of any such individual: and
 - (B) such repayment would be contrary to equity and good conscience.

Here, the claimant was found to have been eligible for one week of regular benefits when she was not paid for that week and ineligible for another week of regular benefits when she was paid benefits for that week as determined in case 22A-UI-18397-B2-T. Accordingly, this also creates a situation whereby claimant is eligible to receive an additional week of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits for one week, but has a week of FPUC benefits deemed to be overpayments. The net effect is no overpayment.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated October 24, 2022, (reference 02), is reversed. The claimant was not overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits as claimant's one week of overpayment was offset by one week in which claimant did not receive FPUC benefits creating a net effect of no overpayment.

Blair Bennett | Administrative Law Judge II lowa Department of Inspections & Appeals

November 22, 2022

Decision Dated and Mailed

bab/scn

APPEAL RIGHTS. If you disagree with the decision, you or any interested party may:

1. Appeal to the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days of the date under the judge's signature by submitting a written appeal via mail, fax, or online to:

Employment Appeal Board 4th Floor – Lucas Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319 Fax: (515)281-7191 Online: eab.iowa.gov

The appeal period will be extended to the next business day if the last day to appeal falls on a weekend or a legal holiday. There is no filing fee to file an appeal with the Employment Appeal Board.

AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD SHALL STATE CLEARLY:

- 1) The name, address, and social security number of the claimant.
- 2) A reference to the decision from which the appeal is taken.
- 3) That an appeal from such decision is being made and such appeal is signed.
- 4) The grounds upon which such appeal is based.

An Employment Appeal Board decision is final agency action. If a party disagrees with the Employment Appeal Board decision, they may file a petition for judicial review in district court.

2. If you do not file an appeal of the judge's decision with the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days, the decision becomes final agency action, and you have the option to file a petition for judicial review in District Court within thirty (30) days after the decision becomes final. Additional information on how to file a petition can be found at www.iowacourts.gov/efile. There may be a filing fee to file the petition in District Court.

Note to Parties: YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in the appeal or obtain a lawyer or other interested party to do so provided there is no expense to Workforce Development. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, you may obtain the services of either a private attorney or one whose services are paid for with public funds.

Note to Claimant: It is important that you file your weekly claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

SERVICE INFORMATION:

A true and correct copy of this decision was mailed to each of the parties listed.

DERECHOS DE APELACIÓN. Si no está de acuerdo con la decisión, usted o cualquier parte interesada puede:

1. Apelar a la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días de la fecha bajo la firma del juez presentando una apelación por escrito por correo, fax o en línea a:

Employment Appeal Board 4th Floor – Lucas Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319 Fax: (515)281-7191 En línea: eab.iowa.gov

El período de apelación se extenderá hasta el siguiente día hábil si el último día para apelar cae en fin de semana o día feriado legal. No hay tarifa de presentación para presentar una apelación ante la Junta de Apelación de Empleo.

UNA APELACIÓN A LA JUNTA DEBE ESTABLECER CLARAMENTE:

- 1) El nombre, dirección y número de seguro social del reclamante.
- 2) Una referencia a la decisión de la que se toma la apelación.
- 3) Que se interponga recurso de apelación contra tal decisión y se firme dicho recurso.
- 4) Los fundamentos en que se funda dicho recurso.

Una decisión de la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo es una acción final de la agencia. Si una de las partes no está de acuerdo con la decisión de la Junta de Apelación de Empleo, puede presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el tribunal de distrito.

2. Si no presenta una apelación de la decisión del juez ante la Junta de Apelación de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días, la decisión se convierte en una acción final de la agencia y tiene la opción de presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrito dentro de los treinta (30) días. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en www.iowacourts.gov/efile. Puede haber una tarifa de presentación para presentar la petición en el Tribunal de Distrito.

Nota para las partes: USTED PUEDE REPRESENTARSE en la apelación u obtener un abogado u otra parte interesada para que lo haga, siempre que no haya gastos para Workforce Development. Si desea ser representado por un abogado, puede obtener los servicios de un abogado privado o uno cuyos servicios se paguen con fondos públicos.

Nota para el reclamante: es importante que presente su reclamo semanal según las instrucciones, mientras esta apelación está pendiente, para proteger su derecho continuo a los beneficios.

SERVICIO DE INFORMACIÓN:

Se envió por correo una copia fiel y correcta de esta decisión a cada una de las partes enumeradas.