

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

KENNETH R CLARK
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 23A-UI-05307-JT-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 03/27/22
Claimant: Appellant (2)**

Iowa Code Section 96.3(7) – Overpayment of Benefits

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On May 21, 2023, Kenneth Clark (claimant) filed a timely appeal from the May 12, 2023 (reference 02) decision that held the claimant was overpaid \$1,062.00 in regular benefits for two weeks between March 12, 2023 and March 25, 2023, due to an April 14, 2023 able and available decision that disqualified the claimant for benefits. A hearing was set for June 12, 2023 and the parties were appropriately notified. Upon review of Iowa Workforce Development administrative records, the administrative law judge concludes a hearing is unnecessary. The administrative law judge takes official notice of the following Iowa Workforce Development administrative records: DBRO, NMRO, the April 14, 2023 (reference 01) disqualification decision, the administrative law judge decision in Appeal Number 23A-UI-04216-SN-T, and the May 12, 2023 (reference 02) overpayment decision.

ISSUE:

Whether the claimant was overpaid \$1,062.00 in regular benefits for two weeks between March 12, 2023 and March 25, 2023, due to an April 14, 2023 able and available decision that disqualified the claimant for benefits.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds:

Kenneth Clark (claimant) established an original claim for benefits that was effective March 27, 2022 and an “additional claim” for benefits that was effective March 12, 2023.

In connection with the additional claim, the claimant received \$1,062.00 in benefits for the two-week period of March 12, 2023 through March 25, 2023.

On April 14, 2023, Iowa Workforce Development mailed the April 14, 2023 (reference 01) decision to the claimant. The reference 01 decision denied benefits effective March 12, 2023, based on the deputy’s conclusion the claimant was still employed in his job under the same hours and wages as in the original contact of hire and therefore was not partially unemployed within the meaning of the law.

The reference 01 decision prompted and is the basis for the overpayment decision from which the claimant appeals in the present matter.

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the reference 01 decision.

On May 31, 2023, an administrative law judge issued a decision in Appeal Number 23A-UI-04216-SN-T that reversed the April 14, 2023 (reference 01) decision. The administrative law judge allowed benefits to the claimant for the two week period of March 12-25, 2023, provided the claimant was otherwise eligible, based on the administrative law judge's determination the claimant was able to work, available for work, and totally unemployed during the two-week period. IWD records reflect that the employer in interest has not filed an appeal from the administrative law judge's decision.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 96.3(7) provides, in pertinent part:

7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits.
 - a. If an individual receives benefits for which the individual is subsequently determined to be ineligible, even though the individual acts in good faith and is not otherwise at fault, the benefits shall be recovered. The department in its discretion may recover the overpayment of benefits either by having a sum equal to the overpayment deducted from any future benefits payable to the individual or by having the individual pay to the department a sum equal to the overpayment.

Because the disqualification decision upon which the overpayment decision is based has been reversed on appeal to allow benefits for the two-week period of March 12-25, 2023, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible, the \$1,062.00 in benefits the claimant received for those two weeks is not an overpayment.

DECISION:

The May 12, 2023 (reference 02) decision is REVERSED. Because the April 14, 2023 (reference 01) disqualification decision upon which the overpayment determination was based has been reversed on appeal to allow benefits for the two-week period of March 12-25, 2023, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible, the \$1,062.00 in benefits the claimant received for those two weeks is not an overpayment.



James E. Timberland
Administrative Law Judge

June 14, 2023
Decision Dated and Mailed

jet/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.

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 then file a petition for judicial review in district court.

2. If no one files 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 Iowa Code §17A.19, which is online at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf>.

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.

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 nadie presenta una apelación de la decisión del juez ante la Junta de Apelaciones Laborales dentro de los quince (15) días, la decisión se convierte en acción final de la agencia y usted tiene la opción de presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrito dentro de los treinta (30) días después de que la decisión adquiriera firmeza. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en el Código de Iowa §17A.19, que está en línea en <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf>.

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.