

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

ANGEL FRANCO

Claimant

APPEAL 22A-UI-12061-JD-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

OC: 03/22/20

Claimant: Appellant (2)

Iowa Code § 96.3(7) – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment
Public Law 116-136, Sec. 2107 – Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)
Public Law 116-136, Sec. 2104 – Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)
Iowa Code § 96.3(7) – Lost Wage Assistance Program (LWAP)

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On May 10, 2022 the claimant Angel Franco appealed the May 2, 2022, (reference 02) unemployment insurance decision that concluded the claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,608.04 for the eleven-week period ending June 6, 2020, \$935.00 in PEUC benefits for the nine week period ending August 8, 2020, \$10,200.00 in FPUC benefits for the seventeen week period ending July 25, 2020 and \$600.00 in LWAP for the two week period ending August 8, 2020, as a result of a disqualification decision. An in-person hearing was scheduled and held on August 18, 2022, at 11:05 a.m. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, pursuant to due notice. The claimant, Angel Franco, participated. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record.

ISSUE:

Has the claimant been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits, PEUC, FPUC, and LWAP benefits for the period in question?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The overpayment issue in this case Claimant's administrative records establish that he filed for and received benefits from March 28, 2020 through August 8, 2020. The disqualification related to his separation from employment with The First Assembly of God employer began on December 18, 2020. As such, the claimant was not paid any benefits after the disqualifying separation from employment. Therefore, there is no overpayment of benefits beginning March 28, 2020 through August 8, 2020.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The administrative law judge concludes claimant has not been overpaid benefits for the period in question.

Iowa Code § 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.

b. (1) (a) If the department determines that an overpayment has been made, the charge for the overpayment against the employer's account shall be removed and the account shall be credited with an amount equal to the overpayment from the unemployment compensation trust fund and this credit shall include both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

Public Law 116-136 Sec 2107 provides in pertinent part:

PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.

(2) PROVISIONS OF AGREEMENT. —

Any agreement under paragraph (1) shall provide that the State agency of the State will make payments of pandemic emergency unemployment compensation to individuals who—

(A) have exhausted all rights to regular compensation under the State law or under Federal law with respect to a benefit year (excluding any benefit year that ended before July 1, 2019);

(B) have no rights to regular compensation with respect to a week under such law or any other State unemployment compensation law or to compensation under any other Federal law;

(C) are not receiving compensation with respect to such week under the unemployment compensation law of Canada; and

(D) are able to work, available to work, and actively seeking work.

(emphasis added).

(e) FRAUD AND OVERPAYMENTS. —

...

(2) REPAYMENT. —In the case of individuals who have received amounts of pandemic emergency unemployment compensation under this section to which they were not entitled, the State shall require such individuals to repay the amounts of such pandemic emergency unemployment compensation to the State agency, except that the State agency may waive such repayment if it determines that—

(A) the payment of such pandemic emergency unemployment compensation was without fault on the part of any such individual; and

(B) such repayment would be contrary to equity and good conscience.

Public Law 116-136, 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...

Section 203 of the Continued Assistance for Unemployed Workers Act of 2020 provides in pertinent part:

(a) IN GENERAL. – Section 2104(e) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9023(e)) is amended to read as follows: . . .

“(e) APPLICABILITY. – An agreement entered into under this section shall apply –

(1) to weeks of unemployment beginning after the date on which such agreement is entered into and ending on or before July 31, 2020; and

(2) to weeks of unemployment beginning after December 26, 2020 (or, if later, the date on which such agreement is entered into) and ending on or before March 14, 2021.”.

(b) AMOUNT. -

(1) IN GENERAL. – Section 2104(b) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9023(b)) is amended –

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “of \$600” and inserting “equal to the amount specified in paragraph (3)”; and

(B) by adding at the end of the following new paragraph:

“(3) AMOUNT OF FEDERAL PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.
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“(A) IN GENERAL. – The amount specified in this paragraph is the following amount:

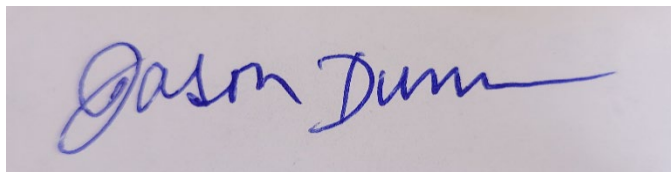
“(i) For weeks of unemployment beginning after the date on which an agreement is entered into under this section and ending on or before July 31, 2020, \$600.

“(ii) For weeks of unemployment beginning after December 26, 2020 (or, if later, the date on which such agreement is entered into), and ending on or before March 14, 2021, \$300.”.

The administrative law judge concludes that the claimant has not been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount \$1,608.04, \$935.00 in PEUC benefits, \$10,200.00 in FPUC benefits or \$600.00 in LWAP benefits. The claimant's administrative records establish that he filed for and received benefits from March 28, 2020 through August 8, 2020. The disqualification related to his separation from employment with The First Assembly of God employer began on December 18, 2020. As such, the claimant was not paid any benefits after the disqualifying separation from employment. Therefore, there is no overpayment of benefits beginning March 28, 2020 through August 8, 2020.

DECISION:

The May 2, 2022, (reference 02) unemployment insurance decision is reversed. The claimant has not been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits amount \$1,608.04, \$935.00 in PEUC benefits, \$10,200.00 in FPUC benefits or \$600.00 in LWAP benefits. The claimant's overpayment balance should reflect \$0.00 balance.



Jason Dunn
Administrative Law Judge

September 30, 2022
Decision Dated and Mailed

jd/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> or by contacting the District Court Clerk of Court <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

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 se encuentra en línea en <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> o comunicándose con el Tribunal de Distrito Secretario del tribunal <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

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.