

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

MARIAH E MOORE
Claimant

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
Employer

APPEAL 21A-UI-08174-AW-T
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION

OC: 05/03/20
Claimant: Appellant (4R)

Iowa Code § 96.1A(37) – Definitions – Total, partial unemployment
Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Eligibility – A&A – Able to, available for, work search
Iowa Code § 96.7(2)A(2) – Charges – Same base period employment
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.23(26) – Eligibility – A&A – Part-time same hours, wages

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed an appeal from the March 15, 2021 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits. The parties were properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on June 3, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Claimant participated. Employer participated through Jessica Wade, Human Resources Business Analyst. No exhibits were admitted. Official notice was taken of the administrative record.

ISSUES:

Whether claimant is totally, partially or temporarily unemployed.
Whether claimant is able to and available for work.
Whether claimant is still employed at the same hours and wages.
Whether employer's account is subject to charge.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was employed as a part-time Graduate Teaching Assistant from August 1, 2019 until her employment with the University of Iowa ended on May 15, 2021. Claimant was paid in full for the contracted length of employment. Claimant's employment with the University of Iowa was not affected by Covid-19.

Claimant was also employed as a Bartender and Waitress at Riverside Casino and Golf Resort. Riverside furloughed claimant without pay effective May 1, 2020 as a result of Covid-19. Claimant returned to work with Riverside on June 1, 2020, at reduced hours.

Claimant filed an initial claim for unemployment insurance benefits effective May 3, 2020 and weekly claims for the 11 weeks between May 3, 2020 and July 18, 2020. Claimant reported zero wages earned on her first two weekly claims. Claimant had no barriers to employment since May 3, 2020.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes:

Iowa Code section 96.1A(37) provides:

"Total and partial unemployment".

a. An individual shall be deemed "totally unemployed" in any week with respect to which no wages are payable to the individual and during which the individual performs no services.

b. An individual shall be deemed partially unemployed in any week in which either of the following apply:

(1) While employed at the individual's then regular job, the individual works less than the regular full-time week and in which the individual earns less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

(2) The individual, having been separated from the individual's regular job, earns at odd jobs less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

c. An individual shall be deemed temporarily unemployed if for a period, verified by the department, not to exceed four consecutive weeks, the individual is unemployed due to a plant shutdown, vacation, inventory, lack of work or emergency from the individual's regular job or trade in which the individual worked full-time and will again work full-time, if the individual's employment, although temporarily suspended, has not been terminated.

Iowa Code section 96.4(3) provides:

An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect to any week only if the department finds that:

3. The individual is able to work, is available for work, and is earnestly and actively seeking work. This subsection is waived if the individual is deemed partially unemployed, while employed at the individual's regular job, as defined in section 96.1A, subsection 37, paragraph "b", unnumbered paragraph (1), or temporarily unemployed as defined in section 96.1A, subsection 37, paragraph "c". The work search requirements of this subsection and the disqualification requirement for failure to apply for, or to accept suitable work of section 96.5, subsection 3 are waived if the individual is not disqualified for benefits under section 96.5, subsection 1, paragraph "h".

Iowa Admin. R. 871-24.23(26) provides:

Availability disqualifications. The following are reasons for a claimant being disqualified for being unavailable for work.

(26) Where a claimant is still employed in a part-time job at the same hours and wages as contemplated in the original contract for hire and is not working on a reduced workweek basis difference from the contract for hire, such claimant cannot be considered partially unemployed.

Iowa Code section 96.7(2)a(2) provides:

2. Contribution rates based on benefit experience.

a. (2) The amount of regular benefits plus fifty percent of the amount of extended benefits paid to an eligible individual shall be charged against the account of the employers in the base period in the inverse chronological order in which the employment of the individual occurred.

(a) However, if the individual to whom the benefits are paid is in the employ of a base period employer at the time the individual is receiving the benefits, and the individual is receiving the same employment from the employer that the individual received during the individual's base period, benefits paid to the individual shall not be charged against the account of the employer. This provision applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding subparagraph (3) and section 96.8, subsection 5.

(b) An employer's account shall not be charged with benefits paid to an individual who left the work of the employer voluntarily without good cause attributable to the employer or to an individual who was discharged for misconduct in connection with the individual's employment, or to an individual who failed without good cause, either to apply for available, suitable work or to accept suitable work with that employer, but shall be charged to the unemployment compensation fund. This paragraph applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

(c) The amount of benefits paid to an individual, which is solely due to wage credits considered to be in an individual's base period due to the exclusion and substitution of calendar quarters from the individual's base period under section 96.23, shall be charged against the account of the employer responsible for paying the workers' compensation benefits for temporary total disability or during a healing period under section 85.33, section 85.34, subsection 1, or section 85A.17, or responsible for paying indemnity insurance benefits.

From May 3, 2020 until May 16, 2020, claimant worked her regular hours and received her regular wages from the University of Iowa but performed no work and received no wages from Riverside. Claimant was partially unemployed and able to and available for work. Benefits are allowed provided claimant is otherwise eligible and subject to claimant reporting wages earned from the University of Iowa. The University of Iowa's account (# 068884-000) shall not be charged.

From May 17, 2020 until May 30, 2020, claimant performed no work and received no wages from the University of Iowa or Riverside. Claimant was totally unemployed and able to and available for work. Benefits are allowed provided claimant is otherwise eligible. The University of Iowa's account (#068884-000) may be subject to charge.

Effective May 31, 2020, claimant performed no work for the University of Iowa and performed some work for Riverside. Claimant was partially unemployed and able to and available for work. Benefits are allowed provided claimant is otherwise eligible and subject to claimant reporting wages earned from Riverside. The University of Iowa's account (# 068884-000) may be subject to charge.

DECISION:

The March 15, 2021 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is modified in favor of appellant.

Claimant was partially unemployed and able to and available for work from May 3, 2020 until May 16, 2020; benefits are allowed provided claimant is otherwise eligible and subject to claimant reporting wages earned. Employer's account (#068884-000) shall not be charged.

Claimant was totally unemployed and able to and available for work from May 17, 2020 until May 30, 2020, benefits are allowed provided claimant is otherwise eligible. Employer's account (#068884-000) may be subject to charge.

Effective May 31, 2020, claimant was partially unemployed and able to and available for work; benefits are allowed provided claimant is otherwise eligible and subject to claimant reporting wages earned. Employer's account (#068884-000) may be subject to charge.

REMAND:

The issue of whether claimant has accurately reported wages earned is remanded to the Investigations and Recovery Unit of Iowa Workforce Development for an investigation and decision.



Adrienne C. Williamson
Administrative Law Judge
Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau
Iowa Workforce Development
1000 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209
Fax (515)478-3528

June 23, 2021
Decision Dated and Mailed

acw/scn