IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

PAVEL T GREPL Claimant

APPEAL 20A-UI-02577-DB-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 03/15/20 Claimant: Appellant (1R)

Iowa Code § 96.4(4) – Determination of Benefits

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the March 20, 2020 monetary determination. After due notice was issued, a telephone hearing was held on April 24, 2020. Claimant participated personally. Claimant's Exhibit A was admitted. The administrative law judge took official notice of the claimant's unemployment insurance benefits records.

ISSUE:

Is the claimant monetarily eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits effective March 15, 2020?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

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

The claimant filed his initial claim for unemployment insurance benefits with an effective date of March 15, 2020. The base period is a four quarter time frame using the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters at the time an initial unemployment insurance claim application is filed. Qualified earnings in the base period determine the weekly benefit amount and the maximum benefit amount.

The base period for the claimant in this case covers the fourth quarter of 2018, as well as the first, second and third quarters of 2019. The amount listed as covered wages in his monetary record from the fourth quarter of 2018 in the amount of \$1,304.04 from TMONE LLC is correct.

Claimant has been working for the University of Iowa as a support consultant beginning February 26, 2019. Claimant testified that he worked and earned wages in the first quarter of 2019 in the amount of \$304.50 from the University of Iowa. He also worked and earned wages in the second quarter of 2019 in the amount of \$2,851.72 from the University of Iowa. He also worked and earned wages in the third quarter of 2019 in the amount of \$3,337.55 from the University of Iowa. He provided his 2019 W2 forms as part of Exhibit A. None of the wages from the University of Iowa are reflected in the claimant's monetary record.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant has established that there may be wages that were not included in his monetary record dated March 20, 2020.

Iowa Code section 96.4(4)*a* provides:

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

4. a. The individual has been paid wages for insured work during the individual's base period in an amount at least one and one-quarter times the wages paid to the individual during that guarter of the individual's base period in which the individual's wages were highest; provided that the individual has been paid wages for insured work totaling at least three and five-tenths percent of the statewide average annual wage for insured work (effective July 7, 2019 this amount is \$1,660), computed for the preceding calendar year if the individual's benefit year begins on or after the first full week in July and computed for the second preceding calendar year if the individual's benefit year begins before the first full week in July, in that calendar quarter in the individual's base period in which the individual's wages were highest, and the individual has been paid wages for insured work totaling at least one-half of the amount of wages required under this paragraph (effective July 7, 2019 this amount is \$830) in the calendar quarter of the base period in which the individual's wages were highest, in a calendar quarter in the individual's base period other than the calendar quarter in which the individual's wages were highest. The calendar quarter wage requirements shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of ten dollars.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.1(11) provides:

Base period. The period of time in which the amount of wages paid to an individual in insured work which determines an individual's eligibility for, and the amount and duration of, benefits. The base period consists of the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the calendar quarter in which the individual's claim for benefits is effective with the following exception. The department shall exclude three or more calendar quarters from the individual's base period in which the individual received workers' compensation or indemnity insurance benefits and substitute consecutive calendar quarters immediately preceding the base period in which the individual did not receive workers' compensation or indemnity insurance benefits. This exception applies under the following conditions:

a. The individual did not work in and receive wages from insured work for three calendar quarters of the base period, or

b. The individual did not work in and receive wages from insured work for two calendar quarters and lacked qualifying wages from insured work to establish a valid claim for benefits during another quarter of the base period.

Claimant has credibility established that additional wages from the University of Iowa may need to be added to his monetary record. As such, this matter is remanded to the Benefits Bureau to review the claim to determine the amount of wages to add to claimant's monetary record from the University of Iowa. Claimant must continue filing weekly continued claims for benefits so long as he is unemployed or working a reduced work schedule.

Note to Claimant: If this decision determines you are not eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits. If you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by following the instructions on the first page of this decision. Individuals who do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits due to disqualifying separations may qualify for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA). You will need to apply for PUA to determine your eligibility under the program. Additional information on how to apply for PUA can be found at https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/pua-information.

DECISION:

The March 20, 2020 monetary record is affirmed pending an investigation of whether the claimant's wages received from the University of Iowa from the first quarter of 2019 through the third quarter of 2019 should be added.

REMAND:

The matter of whether the claimant's wages from the University of Iowa should be added to his monetary record, and whether, after adding those wages, claimant is monetarily eligible for unemployment insurance benefits, is remanded to the Benefits Bureau for an initial determination and/or wage investigation if necessary.

Dawn Morucher

Dawn Boucher Administrative Law Judge

April 27, 2020 Decision Dated and Mailed

db/scn