

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

LINETTE F ROSS
Claimant

APPEAL 16A-UI-12196-CL-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

HOME DEPOT USA INC
Employer

**OC: 10/09/16
Claimant: Appellant (4)**

Iowa Code § 96.19(38)a & b – Total and Partial Unemployment
Iowa Code § 96.7(2)a(2) – Same Base Period Employment
Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Ability to and Availability for Work
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-23.43(4)a – Supplemental Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed an appeal from the November 1, 2016, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits based upon her availability for work. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on December 1, 2016. Claimant participated. Employer did not participate.

ISSUE:

Is the claimant partially unemployed and available for work?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having heard the testimony and having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant currently works for Home Depot, a base period employer, part-time under the same terms and conditions as contemplated at hire. She also has other potentially qualifying wages in the base period history from her employment with H&R Block.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant is partially unemployed and this part-time employer is relieved of benefit charges.

Iowa Code § 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 96.19,

subsection 38, paragraph "b", unnumbered paragraph (1), or temporarily unemployed as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, 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 Code § 96.19(38) 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, 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.

An individual shall be deemed partially unemployed in any week in which 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 § 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.

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 § 96.8, subsection 5.

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 § 96.8, subsection 5.

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 § 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 § 85.33, § 85.34, subsection 1, or § 85A.17, or responsible for paying indemnity insurance benefits.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-23.43(4)a provides in part:

(4) Supplemental employment.

a. An individual, who has been separated with cause attributable to the regular employer and who remains in the employ of the individual's part-time, base period employer, continues to be eligible for benefits as long as the individual is receiving the same employment from the part-time employer that the individual received during the base period. The part-time employer's account, including the reimbursable employer's account, may be relieved of benefit charges....

Because the claimant has other base-period wages and is currently employed part-time, she may be considered partially unemployed. Partial benefits may be allowed if she is otherwise eligible. Inasmuch as the current part-time employer is offering the same wages and hours as contemplated at hire, no benefit charges shall be made to its account.

DECISION:

The November 1, 2016, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is modified in favor of the appellant. The claimant is partially unemployed and benefits are allowed, provided she is otherwise eligible. The account of the current part-time employer Home Depot (account number 261871) shall not be charged. The benefits withheld shall be paid to claimant, provided she is otherwise eligible. Claimant should report gross wages for the week in which they are earned for the purpose of establishing continuing eligibility for partial unemployment benefits.

REMAND:

The monetary eligibility issue from the base period wage history that includes H&R Block (employer account number 298771) as delineated in the findings of fact is remanded to the Benefits Bureau of Iowa Workforce Development for an initial investigation and determination.

Christine A. Louis
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Decision Dated and Mailed

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