

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

**JOSEPH P RUBY**  
Claimant

**APPEAL 16A-UI-12674-DL-T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 11/13/16  
Claimant: Appellant (2)**

Iowa Code § 96.6(1) – Filing Claims  
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)a & h(1) & (2) – Backdating

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

Claimant filed a timely appeal from the November 23, 2016, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that denied the request to backdate the claim for benefits prior to November 13, 2016. After due notice was issued, a hearing was scheduled to be held by telephone conference call on December 14, 2016. No hearing was held as there was sufficient evidence in the appeal letter and administrative record to resolve the matter without testimony.

**ISSUE:**

Should the claim be backdated prior to November 13, 2016?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant filed a claim for benefits with an effective date of November 13, 2016, and has presented good cause to backdate the claim to November 6, 2016, because the employer failed to give accurate information about whether it would process the claim as it had in the past.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

The administrative law judge concludes the claimant's request to backdate the claim is granted.

Iowa Code section 96.6(1) provides:

**Filing — determination — appeal.**

1. *Filing.* Claims for benefits shall be made in accordance with such regulations as the department may prescribe.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)h(1) and (2) provide:

**Procedures for workers desiring to file a claim for benefits for unemployment insurance.**

(1) Section 96.6 of the employment security law of Iowa states that claims for benefits shall be made in accordance with such rules as the department prescribes. The department of workforce development accordingly prescribes:

*h.* Effective starting date for the benefit year.

(1) Filing for benefits shall be effective as of Sunday of the current calendar week in which, subsequent to the individual's separation from work, an individual reports in person at a workforce development center and registers for work in accordance with paragraph "a" of this rule.

(2) The claim may be backdated prior to the first day of the calendar week in which the claimant does report and file a claim for the following reasons:

Backdated prior to the week in which the individual reported if the individual presents to the department sufficient grounds to justify or excuse the delay;

There is scheduled filing in the following week because of a mass layoff;

The failure of the department to recognize the expiration of the claimant's previous benefit year;

The individual is given incorrect advice by a workforce development employee;

The claimant filed an interstate claim against another state which has been determined as ineligible;

Failure on the part of the employer to comply with the provisions of the law or of these rules;

Coercion or intimidation exercised by the employer to prevent the prompt filing of such claim;

Failure of the department to discharge its responsibilities promptly in connection with such claim, the department shall extend the period during which such claim may be filed to a date which shall be not less than one week after the individual has received appropriate notice of potential rights to benefits, provided, that no such claim may be filed after the 13 weeks subsequent to the end of the benefit year during which the week of unemployment occurred. In the event continuous jurisdiction is exercised under the provisions of the law, the department may, in its discretion, extend the period during which claims, with respect to week of unemployment affected by such redetermination, may be filed.

Claimant has presented good cause to backdate the claim to November 6, 2016, because the employer failed to give accurate information about whether it would process the claim as it had in the past. Backdating is allowed.

**DECISION:**

The November 23, 2016, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is reversed. The claimant's request to backdate the claim to November 6, 2016, is granted, as are the retroactive benefits for the same time period.

---

Dévon M. Lewis  
Administrative Law Judge

---

Decision Dated and Mailed

dml/rvs