IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

MAJEED J WIES

Claimant

APPEAL NO: 22A-UI-08819-CS-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 05/31/20

Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code § 96.3(7) – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment
Iowa Code § 96.3(7) - Recovery of Benefit Overpayment – Lost Wages Assistance Program
PL116-136, Sec. 2104 – Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On April 6, 2022, the claimant filed an appeal from the March 31, 2022, (reference 04) unemployment insurance decision that concluded he was overpaid \$4,800.00 in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits and overpaid \$1,500.00 in Lost Wage Assistance Program (LWAP) benefits. After proper notice, a telephone hearing was conducted on May 19, 2022. The claimant participated through CTS Language Arabic Interpreter, Suzanne (Identity No. 14796). Claimant's wife, Apyaf Khalil, was present. Official notice of the administrative records was taken.

ISSUE:

- I. Was the claimant overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)?
- II. Was the claimant overpaid Lost Wage Assistance Program (LWAP) benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant filed a new claim for unemployment insurance benefits with an effective date of May 31, 2020.

The claimant received federal unemployment insurance benefits through Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC). Claimant received \$600.00 per week in FPUC benefits in addition to the state unemployment benefits. Claimant received \$4,800.00 in federal benefits for the period of May 31, 2020 through July 25, 2020.

Claimant received \$300.00 per week in Lost Wage Assistance Program (LWAP) benefits in addition to the state unemployment benefits beginning July 26, 2020 through August 29, 2020. Claimant receive the gross amount of \$1,500.00 in LWAP benefits for the five-week period ending August 29, 2020.

The unemployment insurance decision that disqualified the claimant from receiving unemployment insurance benefits remains in effect due to a decision of the administrative law judge in appeal 21A-UI-07705-DS-T.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons stated below the administrative law judge finds the claimant was overpaid FPUC and LWAP benefits.

Iowa Code section 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.

PL116-136, 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...

The FPUC program was extended and the weekly benefit amount was reduced to \$300.00 by the consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.

Here, the claimant is disqualified from receiving regular unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Accordingly, this also disqualifies claimant from receiving Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits and Lost Wage Assistance Program (LWAP) benefits. As a result the claimant was overpaid \$4,800.00 in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) and \$1,500.00 in LWAP benefits.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated March 31, 2022, (reference 04), is AFFIRMED. The claimant was overpaid \$4,800.00 in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) and \$1,500.00 in LWAP benefits.

Carly Smith

Administrative Law Judge

Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau

__June 28, 2022_

Decision Dated and Mailed

cs/mh

Note to Claimant.

This decision determines you have been overpaid FPUC and LWAP benefits under the CARES Act. 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. Additionally, instructions for requesting a waiver of this overpayment can be found at https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/federal-unemployment-insurance-overpayment-recovery. If this decision becomes final and you are not eligible for a waiver, you will have to repay the benefits you received.

You may find additional information about food, housing, and other resources at https://covidrecoveryiowa.org/ or at https://dhs.iowa.gov/node/3250