

**IN THE IOWA ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

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**MICHELLE L POWERS**

Claimant

**APPEAL 24A-UI-03403-CS-T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**HUMBOLDT COMMUNITY SCH DIST**

Department

**OC: 08/23/20**

**Claimant: Appellant (4)**

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Iowa Code § 96.6(2) – Timeliness of Protest

Iowa Code § 96.7(8)b(4) – Application for Redetermination

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

On March 28, 2024, Humboldt Community School District (employer) filed an appeal from the notice of reimbursable charges dated January 15, 2021, reference 03, for the fourth quarter of 2020. A hearing was scheduled to be held on April 22, 2024. Appeal 24A-UI-03413-CS-T combined into one record. A notice of hearing was mailed to both parties. Both parties did not call in to participate. Administrative notice was taken of the employer's appeal and attached documents (Exhibit D6). The appeal letter and attached documents were sufficient to resolve the issue without holding a hearing.

**ISSUES:**

- I. Was the employer's protest timely?
- II. Did the employer timely appeal the notice of reimbursable charges?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant filed for benefits effective August 23, 2020. The notice of claim was mailed to employer's address of record on September 22, 2020. (Exhibit D6, pg. 6) the employer received it within ten days and submitted their protest on September 28, 2020.

On or about October 15, 2020, the employer received a notice of reimbursable charges for the third quarter of 2020. (Exhibit D6, pg. 11). The employer attempted to submit an appeal to the notice of reimbursable charges on October 19, 2020. (Exhibit D6, pg. 8). The employer was informed there was nothing to appeal since a fact-finding interview had not been held. (Exhibit D6, pg. 8). On December 1, 2020, a fact finding interview was held. (Exhibit D6, pg. 5). On December 14, 2020 a decision was issued that denied the claimant benefits. (Exhibit D6, pg. 3).

On January 15, 2021, a notice of reimbursable charges was mailed for the fourth quarter of 2020 informing them they were being charged \$2,706.00 for the claimant's benefits. (Exhibit 6, pg. 10). The employer attempted to appeal the decision on January 26, 2021. (Exhibit D6, pg. 4) The employer was informed by Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) that a future credit would be issued for the charges. The employer has not received a credit for the charges.

## **REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the employer's protest of the Notice of Claim is timely and employer's appeal from the Notice of Reimbursable Benefit Charges is timely.

Iowa Code section 96.6(2) provides, in pertinent part:

2. Initial determination. A representative designated by the director shall promptly notify all interested parties to the claim of its filing, and the parties have ten days from the date of mailing the notice of the filing of the claim by ordinary mail to the last known address to protest payment of benefits to the claimant.

Iowa Code section 96.7(8)b(4) provides:

8. Financing benefits paid to employees of nonprofit organizations.

b. Reimbursements for benefits paid in lieu of contributions shall be made in accordance with the following:

(4) The amount due specified in a bill from the department is conclusive unless, not later than fifteen days following the date the bill was mailed or otherwise delivered to the last known address of the nonprofit organization, the nonprofit organization files an application for redetermination with the department setting forth the grounds for the application. The department shall promptly review the amount due specified in the bill and shall issue a redetermination. The redetermination is conclusive on the nonprofit organization unless, not later than thirty days after the redetermination was mailed or otherwise delivered to the last known address of the nonprofit organization, the nonprofit organization files an appeal to the district court pursuant to subsection 5.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.35(2) provides:

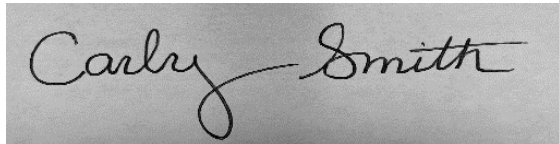
2. The submission of any payment, appeal, application, request, notice, objection, petition, report or other information or document not within the specified statutory or regulatory period shall be considered timely if it is established to the satisfaction of the division that the delay in submission was due to division error or misinformation or to delay or other action of the United States postal service.

Employer submitted its protest via facsimile prior to the due date. The delay in IWD's receipt of the protest was due to agency error. Employer filed its appeal of the Notice of Reimbursable Benefit Charges for the third quarter of 2020 prior to the due date.

The agency's decision dated December 14, 2020 (reference 01) found that the employer would not be charged for benefits. On or about January 15, 2021, a notice of reimbursable charges was mailed to the employer informing them they were still being charged for claimant's benefits. The Statement of Charges is inconsistent with the agency's previous decision. The employer attempted to appeal the decision and was informed the charges would appear as a credit on a future statement of reimbursable charges. The employer has never received a credit for the charges. Therefore, the employer timely protested the Notice of Claim and timely appealed the Notice of Reimbursable Benefit Charges for the fourth quarter of 2020

**DECISION:**

The January 15, 2021, reference 03, statement of charges for the fourth quarter of 2020 is modified in favor of the appellant. A credit of \$2,706.00 will be applied to the employer's account on a future statement of charges. The employer has filed a timely appeal from that statement of charges. The agency's previous decision dated December 14, 2020 (reference 01) found the claimant is denied benefits because the unemployment occurred between academic years or terms. The account of the employer (102328-000) shall not be charged and a credit shall be issued on a future statement of charges.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carly Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The "C" is large and loops around the "arly". The "Smith" is written in a similar cursive style. The signature is centered on a light gray background.

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Carly Smith  
Administrative Law Judge

February 23rd, 2024  
Decision Dated and Mailed

cs/te

**APPEAL RIGHTS.** If you disagree with the decision, you or any interested party may:

1. Appeal to the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days of the date under the judge's signature by submitting a written appeal via mail, fax, or online to:

**Employment Appeal Board  
6200 Park Ave Suite 100  
Des Moines, Iowa 50321  
Fax: (515)281-7191  
Online: [eab.iowa.gov](http://eab.iowa.gov)**

The appeal period will be extended to the next business day if the last day to appeal falls on a weekend or a legal holiday.

**AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD SHALL STATE CLEARLY:**

- 1) The name, address, and social security number of the claimant.
- 2) A reference to the decision from which the appeal is taken.
- 3) That an appeal from such decision is being made and such appeal is signed.
- 4) The grounds upon which such appeal is based.

An Employment Appeal Board decision is final agency action. If a party disagrees with the Employment Appeal Board decision, they may then file a petition for judicial review in district court.

2. If no one files an appeal of the judge's decision with the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days, the decision becomes final agency action, and you have the option to file a petition for judicial review in District Court within thirty (30) days after the decision becomes final. Additional information on how to file a petition can be found at Iowa Code §17A.19, which is online at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> or by contacting the District Court Clerk of Court <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

**Note to Parties:** YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in the appeal or obtain a lawyer or other interested party to do so provided there is no expense to Workforce Development. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, you may obtain the services of either a private attorney or one whose services are paid for with public funds.

**Note to Claimant:** It is important that you file your weekly claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

**SERVICE INFORMATION:**

A true and correct copy of this decision was mailed to each of the parties listed.

**DERECHOS DE APELACIÓN.** Si no está de acuerdo con la decisión, usted o cualquier parte interesada puede:

1. Apelar a la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días de la fecha bajo la firma del juez presentando una apelación por escrito por correo, fax o en línea a:

**Employment Appeal Board  
6200 Park Ave Suite 100  
Des Moines, Iowa 50321  
Fax: (515)281-7191  
En línea: eab.iowa.gov**

El período de apelación se extenderá hasta el siguiente día hábil si el último día para apelar cae en fin de semana o día feriado legal.

UNA APELACIÓN A LA JUNTA DEBE ESTABLECER CLARAMENTE:

- 1) El nombre, dirección y número de seguro social del reclamante.
- 2) Una referencia a la decisión de la que se toma la apelación.
- 3) Que se interponga recurso de apelación contra tal decisión y se firme dicho recurso.
- 4) Los fundamentos en que se funda dicho recurso.

Una decisión de la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo es una acción final de la agencia. Si una de las partes no está de acuerdo con la decisión de la Junta de Apelación de Empleo, puede presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el tribunal de distrito.

2. Si nadie presenta una apelación de la decisión del juez ante la Junta de Apelaciones Laborales dentro de los quince (15) días, la decisión se convierte en acción final de la agencia y usted tiene la opción de presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrito dentro de los treinta (30) días después de que la decisión adquiera firmeza. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en el Código de Iowa §17A.19, que se encuentra en línea en <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> o comunicándose con el Tribunal de Distrito Secretario del tribunal <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

**Nota para las partes:** USTED PUEDE REPRESENTARSE en la apelación u obtener un abogado u otra parte interesada para que lo haga, siempre que no haya gastos para Workforce Development. Si desea ser representado por un abogado, puede obtener los servicios de un abogado privado o uno cuyos servicios se paguen con fondos públicos.

**Nota para el reclamante:** es importante que presente su reclamo semanal según las instrucciones, mientras esta apelación está pendiente, para proteger su derecho continuo a los beneficios.

**SERVICIO DE INFORMACIÓN:**

Se envió por correo una copia fiel y correcta de esta decisión a cada una de las partes enumeradas.