IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

TIA HEISHMAN

Claimant

APPEAL 20A-UI-04589-AW-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

ANNETT HOLDINGS INC

Employer

OC: 03/22/20

Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code § 96.19(38)b – Definitions – Total, partial unemployment

Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Eligibility – A&A – Able to, available for, work search

Iowa Code § 96.3(7) – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment

PL116-136, Sec. 2104 – Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed an appeal from the May 15, 2020 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits. The parties were properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on June 11, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. Claimant participated. Employer participated through David O'Leary, Driver Recruiting Manager. No exhibits were admitted. Official notice was taken of the administrative record

ISSUES:

Whether claimant is totally, partially or temporarily unemployed.

Whether claimant is able to and available for work.

Whether claimant was overpaid benefits.

Whether claimant is eligible for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant is employed as a full-time Driver Recruiter with Annett Holdings, LLC. Claimant's employment began November 28, 2016. Claimant earns \$39,000.00 per year plus commission. Claimant filed an initial claim for benefits effective March 22, 2020, when her supplemental employer closed due to Covid-19. Claimant has continued to work her regular hours and earn her regular salary with Annett Holdings since March 22, 2020. Claimant's weekly benefit amount is \$518.00.

The administrative record reflects that claimant filed for and has received regular unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the gross amount of \$3,626.00 for the seven-week period between March 22, 2020 and May 9, 2020. In addition to regular unemployment insurance benefits, claimant also received Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) in the gross amount of \$3,600.00 for the six-week period between March 29, 2020 and May 9, 2020.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes claimant is not totally, partially or temporarily unemployed. Benefits are denied.

Iowa Code section 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 either of the following apply:
- (1) 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.
- (2) 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.

Since filing her initial claim for benefits effective March 22, 2020, claimant has worked her regular full-time week and earned more than her weekly benefit amount plus \$15.00. Therefore, claimant is not totally, partially or temporarily unemployed. Accordingly, benefits are denied.

The next issue to be determined is whether claimant has been overpaid benefits. For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes claimant was overpaid benefits, which must be repaid.

Iowa Code section 96.3.(7) states:

- 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.

Benefits were paid to which claimant was not entitled. The administrative law judge concludes that claimant has been overpaid UI in the gross amount of \$3,626.00 for the seven-week period between March 22, 2020 and May 9, 2020. Claimant is required to repay those benefits.

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...

Because claimant is disqualified from receiving UI, claimant is also disqualified from receiving FPUC. The administrative law judge concludes that claimant has been overpaid FPUC in the gross amount of \$3,600.00 for the six-week period between March 29, 2020 and May 9, 2020. Claimant is required to repay those benefits.

Note to Claimant: 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, but who are currently unemployed for reasons related to COVID-19 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 May 15, 2020 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. Claimant is not unemployed. Benefits are denied. Claimant has been overpaid regular unemployment insurance benefits in the gross amount of \$3,626.00 for the seven-week period between March 22, 2020 and May 9, 2020, which must be repaid. Claimant has been overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation in the gross amount of \$3,600.00 for the six-week period between March 29, 2020 and May 9, 2020, which must be repaid.

Adrienne C. Williamson

Administrative Law Judge

Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau

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June 24, 2020

Decision Dated and Mailed

acw/scn