

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

68-0157 (9-06) - 3091078 - EI

SARAH J WILSON

Claimant

APPEAL NO: 15A-UI-03283-B2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

OC: 11/16/14

Claimant: Appellant (2)

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)e – Failure to Report
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.6(6) – Reemployment Services
Iowa Code § 96.4-3 – Able and Available

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from a decision dated March 6, 2015, reference 02, which denied benefits effective March 1, 2015, for failure to report for reemployment services. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call before an Administrative Law Judge on April 30, 2015. Claimant did participate.

ISSUES:

Whether claimant failed to report as directed?

Whether claimant is able and available for work?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having heard the testimony and having examined the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was contacted by IWD and told that she needed to more fully complete unemployment documentation. Said document was ambiguous as to whether claimant could just file the completed document online or if claimant needed to go in to the local IWD office to properly complete her claim form. Claimant completed the document online and did not go in to her local office.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant has established a good cause reason for having failed to report for reemployment services. Benefits allowed.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)e provides:

e. In order to maintain continuing eligibility for benefits during any continuous period of unemployment, an individual shall report as directed to do so by an authorized representative of the department. If the individual has moved to another locality, the individual may register and report in person at a workforce development center at the time previously specified for the reporting.

The method of reporting and the payment of benefits, provided the individual is otherwise eligible, shall be on a biweekly basis by mail if the claimant files a Form 60-0151.

The method of reporting shall be weekly if a voice response continued claim is filed, unless otherwise directed by an authorized representative of the department. An individual who files a voice response continued claim will have the benefit payment automatically deposited weekly in the individual's financial institutions account or be paid by the mailing of a warrant on a biweekly basis.

In order for an individual to receive payment by direct deposit, the individual must provide the department with the appropriate bank routing code number and a checking or savings account number.

The department retains the ultimate authority to choose the method of reporting and payment.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.6 provides:

Profiling for reemployment services.

(1) The department of workforce development and the department of economic development will jointly provide a program which consists of profiling claimants and providing reemployment services.

(2) Profiling is a systematic procedure used to identify claimants who, because of certain characteristics, are determined to be permanently separated and most likely to exhaust benefits. Such claimants may be referred to reemployment services.

(3) Reemployment services may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. An assessment of the claimant's aptitude, work history and interest.
- b. Employment counseling regarding reemployment approaches and plans.
- c. Job search assistance and job placement services.
- d. Labor market information.
- e. Job search workshops or job clubs and referrals to employers.
- f. Résumé preparation.
- g. Other similar services.

(4) As part of the initial intake procedure, each claimant shall be required to provide the information necessary for profiling and evaluation of the likelihood of needing reemployment assistance.

(5) The referral of a claimant and the provision of reemployment services are subject to the availability of funding and limitations of the size of the classes.

(6) A claimant shall participate in reemployment services when referred by the department unless the claimant establishes justifiable cause for failure to participate or the claimant has previously completed such training or services. Failure by the claimant to participate without justifiable cause shall disqualify the claimant from the receipt of benefits until the claimant participates in the reemployment services.

a. Justifiable cause for failure to participate is an important and significant reason which a reasonable person would consider adequate justification in view of the paramount importance of reemployment to the claimant.

b. Reserved.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code § 96.4(7).

As the instructions given to claimant were ambiguous, claimant did respond to the request by filling out the documents online, rather than pursuing the alternative of going in to her local office. Claimant did not ignore the request on the Notice to Register for Work and responded in a timely basis.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated March 6, 2015, reference 02, is reversed. Benefits are allowed, provided claimant has satisfied all other conditions.

Blair A. Bennett
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

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