# IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

**ALLISON L HUGEBACK** 

Claimant

**APPEAL 21A-UI-08096-AW-T** 

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

**BOONE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DIST** 

Employer

OC: 03/15/20

Claimant: Respondent (4)

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

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

Iowa Code § 96.7(2)A(2) - Charges - Same base period employment

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.23(26) - Eligibility - A&A - Part-time same hours, wages

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.22(2)(i)(1) - Eligibility - On-call workers

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.22(2)(i)(3) - Eligibility - A&A - On-call workers, wage history

### STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Employer filed an appeal from the March 16, 2021 (reference 06) unemployment insurance decision that allowed benefits. The parties were properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on June 2, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. Claimant participated. Employer participated through Mitch Lewis, Director of Business Services. Employer's Exhibit 1 was admitted. Official notice was taken of the administrative record.

## **ISSUES:**

Whether claimant's separation was a discharge for disqualifying job-related misconduct or a voluntary quit without good cause attributable to employer.

Whether claimant was overpaid benefits.

Whether claimant should repay those benefits and/or whether employer should be charged based upon its participation in the fact-finding interview.

# FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant has been employed as a Substitute Teacher with Boone Community School District since September 27, 2019. Claimant remains on the substitute list. Claimant field an initial claim for benefits effective March 15, 2020. Claimant earned wages during the base period that were not for on-call work with an educational institution; claimant earned wages as a full-time Wrapper and Cleaner for David McKenzie (account number 233599).

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

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes:

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.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.22(2)i(3) provides:

Benefits eligibility conditions. For an individual to be eligible to receive benefits the department must find that the individual is able to work, available for work, and earnestly and actively seeking work. The individual bears the burden of establishing that the individual is able to work, available for work, and earnestly and actively seeking work.

- (2) Available for work. The availability requirement is satisfied when an individual is willing, able, and ready to accept suitable work which the individual does not have good cause to refuse, that is, the individual is genuinely attached to the labor market....
- i. On-call workers.
- (3) An individual whose wage credits earned in the base period of the claim consist exclusively of wage credits by performing on-call work, such as a banquet worker, railway worker, substitute school teacher or any other individual whose work is solely on-call work during the base period, is not considered an unemployed individual within the meaning of lowa Code section 96.19(38)"a" and "b." An individual who is willing to accept only on-call work is not considered to be available for work.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.52(10) provides:

- (10) Substitute teachers.
- a. Substitute teachers are professional employees and would therefore be subject to the same limitations as other professional employees in regard to contracts, reasonable assurance provisions and the benefit denials between terms and during vacation periods.

- b. Substitute teachers who are employed as on-call workers who hold themselves available for one employer and who will not search for or accept other work, are not available for work within the meaning of the law and are not eligible for unemployment insurance payments pursuant to subrule 24.22(2)"I"(1).
- c. Substitute teachers whose wage credits in the base period consist exclusively of wages earned by performing on-call work are not considered to be unemployed persons pursuant to subrule 24.22(2)"I"(3).
- d. However, substitute teachers engaged in on-call employment are not automatically disqualified but may be eligible pursuant to subrule 24.22(2)"1"(3) if they are:
- (1) Able to and available for work.
- (2) Making an earnest and active search for work each week.
- (3) Placing no restrictions on their employability.
- (4) Show attachment to the labor market. Have wages other than on-call wages with an educational institution in the base period.
- e. A substitute teacher who elects not to report for further possible assignment to work shall be considered to have voluntarily quit pursuant to subrule 24.26(19).

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-23.43(4)a provides in part:

- (4) Supplemental employment.
- a. An individual, who has been separated with cause attributable to the regular employer and who remains in the employ of the individual's part-time, base period employer, continues to be eligible for benefits as long as the individual is receiving the same employment from the part-time employer that the individual received during the base period. The part-time employer's account, including the reimbursable employer's account, may be relieved of benefit charges....

The legislature has provided a specific rule that applies to substitute teachers holding that this category of worker, among others, is not considered to be unemployed within the meaning of the law when the only base period wage credits are related to "on-call" work. However, claimant is monetarily eligible based on non-education wages earned during the base period. Accordingly, benefits may be allowed if the claimant is otherwise eligible and the account of Boone Community School District (Account # 101209-000) shall not be charged.

### **DECISION:**

The March 16, 2021 (reference 06) unemployment insurance decision is modified in favor of appellant. Claimant's on-call status renders availability for this employment moot as she has other non-education wages in the base period. Benefits may be allowed if claimant is otherwise eligible and employer's account (#101209-000) shall not be charged.

Adrienne C. Williamson

Administrative Law Judge

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\_\_June 18, 2021

**Decision Dated and Mailed** 

acw/mh