IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

ESRA S ABD ALGADIR Claimant

APPEAL 20A-UI-11781-B2-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 03/29/20 Claimant: Appellant (1)

PL 110-252, Sec 4001 – Federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act Iowa Code 96.29 – Extended Benefits 20 CFR 615 – Extended Benefits

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated September 14, 2020 (reference 01) that concluded she was not qualified for emergency unemployment compensation (EUC) because she did not have a total of 1.5 times her high quarter wages in her base period. Claimant waived due notice and a hearing was held on November 18, 2020. The claimant participated in the hearing. The administrative law judge took official notice of the claimant's unemployment insurance benefits records.

ISSUE:

Does the claimant have sufficient wages in her base period to qualify for EUC 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 March 29, 2020, after being laid off from her employer. The claimant's base period is from the fourth quarter of 2019 until the third quarter of 2019. The wages in the base period included the following:

	2018/4	2019/1	2019/2	2019/3
Wages	\$3,548.00	\$930.00	\$0.00	\$264.00

The claimant exhausted all the regular unemployment insurance benefits funded by the State of Iowa available on the claim during the week-ending May 30, 2020. She exhausted the federal Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits during the week-ending August 29, 2020. Her claim for extended benefits but was determined ineligible because the total wages in the base period (\$4,743.47) were not at least 1.5 times her high quarter wages (\$3,548.00).

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

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

The Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program was created by Public Law 110-252, Title VI. This temporary unemployment insurance program provides up to 13 additional weeks of unemployment benefits to certain workers who have exhausted their rights to regular unemployment compensation benefits. PL Section 4001(d)(2)(A) states that persons shall not be eligible for Extended Benefits unless they have "20 weeks of full-time insured employment or the equivalent in insured wages" in their base period as determined by the state law implementing the Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970.

The Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 allowed states to choose one of three methods for determining an "equivalent of 20 weeks of full-time insured employment." The method Iowa chose is in Iowa Code § 96.29-1-c, which requires claimants have total base period wages of at least 1.5 times the wages paid during the quarter of the base period in which their wages were highest. The claimant is not ineligible for Extended Benefits because the total wages in the base period were not at least 1.5 times her high quarter wages.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated September 14, 2020 (reference 01) is affirmed. The claimant does not have sufficient wages in her base period to qualify for Emergency Unemployment Compensation.

Blair A. Bennett Administrative Law Judge

<u>November 30, 2020</u> Decision Dated and Mailed

bab/mh