

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

ROGER D SMITH
Claimant

APPEAL 22A-UI-01758-AD-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 12/05/21
Claimant: Appellant (6)**

Iowa Code § 96.4(4) – Second Claim Year
Iowa Code Ch. 17A – Iowa Administrative Procedure Act
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-26.8(1) - Dismissal

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On December 27, 2021, Roger Smith (claimant/appellant) filed an appeal from the unemployment insurance decision dated December 16, 2021 (reference 01) that disqualified claimant from benefits based on a finding he had not earned sufficient wages to receive benefits in a second claim year.

A hearing was set for February 10, 2022 at 11 a.m. Before a hearing was held, the agency issued a favorable decision to the appellant, dated February 4, 2022 (reference 02). This decision found claimant had earned sufficient wages to receive benefits in a second claim year and made the issue on appeal moot. Therefore, no testimony was necessary and no hearing was held.

ISSUE:

Should the appeal be dismissed because the issue on appeal has been resolved in the appellant's favor?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds:

The issue appealed has been administratively resolved in favor of the appellant by the unemployment insurance decision dated February 4, 2022 (reference 02).

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge dismisses the appeal.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-26.8(1) provides:

Withdrawals, dismissals, and postponements.

(1) An appeal may be withdrawn at any time prior to the issuance of a decision upon the request of the appellant and with the approval of an administrative law judge or the manager or chief administrative law judge of the appeals bureau. Requests for withdrawal may be made in writing or orally, provided the oral request is recorded by the presiding officer.

An appeal may be dismissed upon the request of a party or in the agency's discretion when the issue or issues on appeal have been resolved in the appellant's favor.

Generally, courts and administrative tribunals do not decide issues when the underlying controversy is moot. *Rhiner v. State*, 703 N.W.2d 174, 176 (Iowa 2005). "A case is moot if it no longer presents a justiciable controversy because the issues involved are academic or nonexistent." *Iowa Bankers Ass'n v. Iowa Credit Union Dep't*, 335 N.W.2d 439, 442 (Iowa 1983). As the agency resolved the prior disqualification in favor of the appellant prior to the hearing, there is no issue for the administrative law judge to adjudicate, rendering the appeal moot.

DECISION:

The decision dated December 16, 2021 (reference 01) that disqualified claimant from benefits based on a finding he had not earned sufficient wages to receive benefits in a second claim year is dismissed, as it is moot.

The hearing set for February 10, 2022 at 11 a.m. is CANCELLED.



Andrew B. Duffelmeyer
Administrative Law Judge
Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau
1000 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209
Fax (515) 478-3528

February 22, 2022
Decision Dated and Mailed

abd/abd