

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

JENNY REINEKE
Claimant

APPEAL 21R-UI-16947-DG-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

OC: 03/29/20
Claimant: Appellant (2)

Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Able and Available/Work Search

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the March 2, 2021, (reference 01), unemployment insurance decision that warned claimant to make at least two work search contacts per week but did not deny benefits for the week ending February 27, 2021. After due notice was issued, a telephone conference hearing was scheduled to be held on September 24, 2021. Claimant's appeal letter was sufficient to resolve the issue and no hearing was held.

ISSUE:

Did the claimant make an adequate work search for the week ending February 27, 2021, and was the warning appropriate?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant claimed benefits for the week ending February 27, 2021. She did not make two work searches for that week because she was temporarily laid off work, and her claim was classified as group 3 claim.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes that the claimant was able and available to work, and the warning was not appropriate.

Iowa Code section 96.4(3) provides:

An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect to any week only if the department finds that:

3. The individual is able to work, is available for work, and is earnestly and actively seeking work. This subsection is waived if the individual is deemed partially unemployed, while employed at the individual's regular job, as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "b", unnumbered paragraph (1), or

temporarily unemployed as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "c". The work search requirements of this subsection and the disqualification requirement for failure to apply for, or to accept suitable work of section 96.5, subsection 3 are waived if the individual is not disqualified for benefits under section 96.5, subsection 1, paragraph "h".

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.23(28) provides:

Availability disqualifications. The following are reasons for a claimant being disqualified for being unavailable for work.

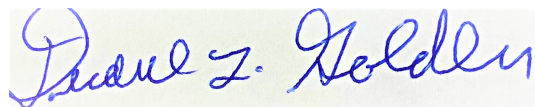
(28) A claimant will be ineligible for benefits because of failure to make an adequate work search after having been previously warned and instructed to expand the search for work effort.

The claimant has sufficiently demonstrated to the satisfaction of the administrative law judge that she was able and available for the week ending February 27, 2021. Claimant was temporarily laid off work, and her claim was classified as group 3 claim. Claimant was told that she was not obligated to conduct work searches each week. Accordingly, the warning was not appropriate.

Note to Claimant: If this decision determines you are not eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits and 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, 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>. If this decision becomes final, or if you are not eligible for PUA, you may have an overpayment of benefits.

DECISION:

The March 2, 2021, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is reversed. The claimant was temporarily laid off work, and her claim was classified as group 3 claim. Claimant was told she was not obligated to conduct work searches for the week ending February 27, 2021. Therefore, the warning was not appropriate.



Duane L. Golden
Administrative Law Judge

October 1, 2021
Decision Dated and Mailed

dlg/kmj