

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

SHELLY M FISHER
Claimant

APPEAL NO: 19A-UI-08344-B2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

OC: 06/23/19
Claimant: Appellant (2)

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

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from a decision dated October 21, 2019, reference 06, that denied benefits effective October 13, 2019, 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 November 14, 2019. 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 filed an original claim in this matter on June 23, 2019. Shortly after she filed for benefits, claimant was called into a local IWD office to help with reemployment services.

Claimant was sent the same message from IWD in early September, 2019. She called and explained that she'd previously been through the program. IWD asked that claimant come in and make sure that all documents were completed. Claimant came into the office prior to the requested date and went through requested steps to show that she'd previously addressed the requested matter. Claimant was told that the programs had changed and her information had seemingly not been transferred to the new program. IWD told claimant that she'd done all that was required and didn't need to worry about the matter.

Subsequent to this statement, claimant received a letter stating that she hadn't timely responded, and appealed that decision.

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 are 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.

(1) An individual who files a weekly continued claim will have the benefit payment automatically deposited weekly on a debit card specified by the department.

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

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.6(1-6) provides:

Reemployment services and eligibility assessment procedure.

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

(1) Purpose.

a 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.

b. The eligibility assessment program is used to accelerate the individual's return to work and systematically review the individual's efforts towards the same goal.

(3) Reemployment services and eligibility assessment 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 is 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 or eligibility assessment. The claimant shall contact the agency prior to the scheduled appointment or service to advise the department of the justifiable cause.

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. Justifiable cause includes when the claimant is scheduled for an employment interview, is verified return to work, or both prior to the scheduled appointment or service.

b. Reserved.

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

In this matter, claimant maintained contact with IWD and completed all of the requested tasks. Based on testimony received, it appears that the fact finder's decision was entered in error and claimant did complete the required tasks. Benefits are allowed.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated October 21, 2019, reference 06, is reversed. Benefits shall be allowed effective October 13, 2019.

Blair A. Bennett
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bab/scn