

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

DEBRA L REINHOLTZ
Claimant

APPEAL NO: 20A-UI-10472-JE-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

OC: 04/26/20
Claimant: Appellant (1)

Section 96.3-7 – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment
Section 96.3-7 – Timeliness of Appeal

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the July 22, 2020, reference 02, decision that determined she was overpaid benefits in the amount of \$72.00 for the three weeks ending June 20, 2020. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call before Administrative Law Judge Julie Elder on October 15, 2020. The claimant participated in the hearing.

ISSUE:

The issues are whether the claimant's appeal is timely and whether she is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: A disqualification decision was mailed to the claimant's last known address of record on July 22, 2020. The claimant received the decision. The decision contained a warning that an appeal must be postmarked or received by the Appeals Section by August 1, 2020. That date fell on a Saturday so the appeal was actually due until August 3, 2020. The appeal was not filed until August 25, 2020, which is after the date noticed on the disqualification decision. The claimant testified she sent her appeal to the Department in a timely manner but did not receive a response and consequently sent it again August 25, 2020. Under these circumstances, the administrative law judge finds the claimant's appeal is timely.

The overpayment issue in this case was created by a disqualification decision that has now been affirmed.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 96.3(7) provides, in pertinent part:

7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits.

a. If an individual receives benefits for which the individual is subsequently determined to be ineligible, even though the individual acts in good faith and is not otherwise at fault, the benefits shall be recovered. The department in its discretion may recover the overpayment of benefits either by having a sum equal to the overpayment deducted from any future benefits payable to the individual or by having the individual pay to the department a sum equal to the overpayment.

b. (1) (a) If the department determines that an overpayment has been made, the charge for the overpayment against the employer's account shall be removed and the account shall be credited with an amount equal to the overpayment from the unemployment compensation trust fund and this credit shall include both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The administrative law judge concludes that the claimant has been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$72.00 for the three weeks ending June 20, 2020, pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.3-7 as the disqualification decision that created the overpayment decision has now been affirmed.

DECISION:

The July 22, 2020, reference 02, decision is affirmed. The claimant has been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$72.00 for the three weeks ending June 20, 2020.



Julie Elder
Administrative Law Judge

October 20, 2020
Decision Dated and Mailed

je/mh