

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

JEFFREY M SPRINGER
Claimant

APPEAL 20A-UI-01849-S1-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 02/09/20
Claimant: Appellant (1)R**

Iowa Code § 96.3(4) – Monetary Eligibility and Subsequent Benefit Year
Iowa Code § 96.4(4) – Monetary Eligibility and Subsequent Benefit Year

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Jeffrey Springer (claimant) appealed monetary record dated February 17, 2020 (reference 01) that concluded he was not eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits because of not having sufficient wages with employers in the base period to be eligible to draw benefits. After hearing notices were mailed to the claimant's last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was held on March 17, 2020. The claimant was represented by Mark Sullivan, Attorney at Law, and participated personally.

The claimant offered and Exhibit One was received into evidence. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative file.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant's monetary record is correct and whether the claimant is eligible to receive benefits during the current benefit year.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant performed work for the employer from November 1, 2004, to December 9, 2017, as a full-time custodian. He suffered a work-related injury on August 1, 2017. The claimant received disability workers' compensation benefits after his surgery on his left shoulder on December 12, 2017. He was separated from employment on December 13, 2018. The claimant's physician placed the claimant under permanent lifting restrictions of five-pounds with his left arm and shoulder.

On February 9, 2020, the claimant filed for unemployment insurance benefits. He agreed that his monetary record is correct in reflecting his wages during his base period of employment.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow the administrative law judge concludes the claimant's monetary record is correct.

Iowa Code section 96.3(4) provides:

4. Determination of benefits. With respect to benefit years beginning on or after July 1, 1983, an eligible individual's weekly benefit amount for a week of total unemployment shall be an amount equal to the following fractions of the individual's total wages in insured work paid during that quarter of the individual's base period in which such total wages were highest. The director shall determine annually a maximum weekly benefit amount equal to the following percentages, to vary with the number of dependents, of the statewide average weekly wage paid to employees in insured work which shall be effective the first day of the first full week in July:

| If the number of dependents is: | The weekly benefit amount shall equal the following fraction of high quarter wages: | Subject to the following maximum percentage of the statewide average weekly wage. |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 0 | 1/23 | 53% |
| 1 | 1/22 | 55% |
| 2 | 1/21 | 57% |
| 3 | 1/20 | 60% |
| 4 or more | 1/19 | 65% |

The maximum weekly benefit amount, if not a multiple of one dollar shall be rounded to the lower multiple of one dollar. However, until such time as sixty-five percent of the statewide average weekly wage exceeds one hundred ninety dollars, the maximum weekly benefit amounts shall be determined using the statewide average weekly wage computed on the basis of wages reported for calendar year 1981. As used in this section, "dependent" means dependent as defined in section 422.12, subsection 1, paragraph "a", as if the individual claimant was a taxpayer, except that an individual claimant's nonworking spouse shall be deemed to be a dependent under this section. "Nonworking spouse" means a spouse who does not earn more than one hundred twenty dollars in gross wages in one week.

Iowa Code section 96.4(4)a-b-c provides:

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

a. The individual has been paid wages for insured work during the individual's base period in an amount at least one and one-quarter times the wages paid to the individual during that quarter of the individual's base period in which the individual's wages were highest; provided that the individual has been paid wages for insured work totaling at least three and five-tenths percent of the statewide average annual wage for insured work, computed for the preceding calendar year if the individual's benefit year begins on or after the first full week in July and computed for the second preceding calendar year if the individual's benefit year begins before the first full week in July, in that calendar quarter in the individual's base period in which the individual's wages were highest, and the individual has been paid wages for insured work totaling at least one-half of the amount of wages required under this paragraph in the calendar quarter of the base period in which the individual's wages were highest, in a calendar quarter in the individual's base period other than the calendar quarter in which the individual's wages were highest. The calendar quarter wage requirements shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of ten dollars.

b. For an individual who does not have sufficient wages in the base period, as defined in section 96.19, to otherwise qualify for benefits pursuant to this subsection, the individual's base period shall be the last four completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the first day of the individual's benefit year if such period qualifies the individual for benefits under this subsection.

(1) Wages that fall within the alternative base period established under this paragraph "b" are not available for qualifying benefits in any subsequent benefit year.

(2) Employers shall be charged in the manner provided in this chapter for benefits paid based upon quarters used in the alternative base period.

c. If the individual has drawn benefits in any benefit year, the individual must during or subsequent to that year, work in and be paid wages for insured work totaling at least eight times the individual's weekly benefit amount, as a condition to receive benefits in the next benefit year.

The claimant agreed that his monetary record was correct. Because the claimant did not have sufficient wages in the base period to be eligible to draw benefits he is not eligible to receive benefits during the current claim year beginning February 9, 2020.

The issues of whether the claimant may substitute quarters based on the receipt of disability benefits, his separation from employment, and whether the claimant is able and available for work may be remanded for determination.

DECISION:

The monetary record dated February 17, 2020 (reference 01) is affirmed. The claimant's monetary record is correct. The claimant is not eligible to receive benefits during the current claim year beginning February 9, 2020.

The issues of whether the claimant may substitute quarters based on the receipt of disability benefits, his separation from employment, and whether the claimant is able and available for work may be remanded for determination.

Beth A. Scheetz
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/scn