

**IN THE IOWA ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

JACOB A STEINBACK
Claimant

APPEAL 24A-UI-05122-AR-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 03/24/24
Claimant: Appellant (6)**

Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Available for work
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871—24.2(1)e – Procedures for workers desiring to file a claim for benefits
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871—24.23 (11) – Failure to Report
Iowa Code Ch. 17A – Iowa Administrative Procedure Act
Iowa Code Ch. 96 – Iowa Employment Security Act
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871—26.8(1) – Appeal Dismissal
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871—24.19(3) – Subsequent Agency Action

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant/appellant, Jacob A. Steinback, filed an appeal from an unemployment insurance decision dated May 16, 2024, (reference 02), finding claimant was ineligible to receive benefits effective May 12, 2024, because claimant failed to report as directed by a department representative. A hearing was scheduled for June 14, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. Claimant called the toll-free number to participate in the hearing. However, no testimony was necessary and no hearing was held.

Prior to the hearing date, Iowa Workforce Development issued a favorable decision to the claimant, dated June 7, 2024, (reference 03) finding that claimant was eligible for unemployment insurance benefits effective May 12, 2024, because claimant had a good-cause reason for failing to report as directed. This decision made the issue on appeal moot. Therefore, no testimony or additional evidence was necessary, and no hearing was held.

ISSUE:

Should the appeal be dismissed as moot?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

These findings of fact are based on the pertinent agency documents relating to this claimant and the appeal. An unemployment insurance decision dated May 16, 2024, (reference 02) determined that the claimant was not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits effective May 12, 2024, because claimant failed to report as directed by a department representative. The

claimant appealed this decision. Before the hearing was held, Iowa Workforce Development issued a favorable decision to the claimant, dated June 7, 2024, (reference 03) stating that claimant is eligible for unemployment insurance benefits effective May 12, 2024, as long as claimant meets all the other eligibility requirements. This subsequent agency decision resolved the only issue on appeal in the claimant's favor, making the appeal moot.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

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).

The only issue on this appeal is now moot, due to subsequent agency action in favor of the appellant. The appeal of the original representative's decision dated May 16, 2024, (reference 02) is dismissed as moot.

DECISION:

The appeal of the unemployment insurance decision dated May 16, 2024, (reference 02), is dismissed as moot. The hearing scheduled for June 14, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. is canceled.



Alexis D. Rowe
Administrative Law Judge

June 14, 2024
Decision Dated and Mailed

AR/jkb

APPEAL RIGHTS. If you disagree with the decision, you or any interested party may:

1. Appeal to the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days of the date under the judge's signature by submitting a written appeal via mail, fax, or online to:

**Iowa Employment Appeal Board
6200 Park Avenue Suite 100
Des Moines, Iowa 50321
Fax: (515)281-7191
Online: eab.iowa.gov**

The appeal period will be extended to the next business day if the last day to appeal falls on a weekend or a legal holiday.

AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD SHALL STATE CLEARLY:

- 1) The name, address, and social security number of the claimant.
- 2) A reference to the decision from which the appeal is taken.
- 3) That an appeal from such decision is being made and such appeal is signed.
- 4) The grounds upon which such appeal is based.

An Employment Appeal Board decision is final agency action. If a party disagrees with the Employment Appeal Board decision, they may then file a petition for judicial review in district court.

2. If no one files an appeal of the judge's decision with the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days, the decision becomes final agency action, and you have the option to file a petition for judicial review in District Court within thirty (30) days after the decision becomes final. Additional information on how to file a petition can be found at Iowa Code §17A.19, which is online at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> or by contacting the District Court Clerk of Court <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

Note to Parties: YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in the appeal or obtain a lawyer or other interested party to do so provided there is no expense to Workforce Development. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, you may obtain the services of either a private attorney or one whose services are paid for with public funds.

Note to Claimant: It is important that you file your weekly claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

SERVICE INFORMATION:

A true and correct copy of this decision was mailed to each of the parties listed.

DERECHOS DE APELACIÓN. Si no está de acuerdo con la decisión, usted o cualquier parte interesada puede:

1. Apelar a la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días de la fecha bajo la firma del juez presentando una apelación por escrito por correo, fax o en línea a:

**Iowa Employment Appeal Board
6200 Park Avenue Suite 100
Des Moines, Iowa 50321
Fax: (515)281-7191
En línea: eab.iowa.gov**

El período de apelación se extenderá hasta el siguiente día hábil si el último día para apelar cae en fin de semana o día feriado legal.

UNA APELACIÓN A LA JUNTA DEBE ESTABLECER CLARAMENTE:

- 1) El nombre, dirección y número de seguro social del reclamante.
- 2) Una referencia a la decisión de la que se toma la apelación.
- 3) Que se interponga recurso de apelación contra tal decisión y se firme dicho recurso.
- 4) Los fundamentos en que se funda dicho recurso.

Una decisión de la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo es una acción final de la agencia. Si una de las partes no está de acuerdo con la decisión de la Junta de Apelación de Empleo, puede presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el tribunal de distrito.

2. Si nadie presenta una apelación de la decisión del juez ante la Junta de Apelaciones Laborales dentro de los quince (15) días, la decisión se convierte en acción final de la agencia y usted tiene la opción de presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrito dentro de los treinta (30) días después de que la decisión adquiriera firmeza. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en el Código de Iowa §17A.19, que se encuentra en línea en <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> o comunicándose con el Tribunal de Distrito Secretario del tribunal <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

Nota para las partes: USTED PUEDE REPRESENTARSE en la apelación u obtener un abogado u otra parte interesada para que lo haga, siempre que no haya gastos para Workforce Development. Si desea ser representado por un abogado, puede obtener los servicios de un abogado privado o uno cuyos servicios se paguen con fondos públicos.

Nota para el reclamante: es importante que presente su reclamo semanal según las instrucciones, mientras esta apelación está pendiente, para proteger su derecho continuo a los beneficios.

SERVICIO DE INFORMACIÓN:

Se envió por correo una copia fiel y correcta de esta decisión a cada una de las partes enumeradas.