

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

KEVIN J PHILLIPS
Claimant

APPEAL 18A-UI-01027-JC-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 01/07/18
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Iowa Code § 96.6(1) – Filing Claims
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)h(1), (2) – Backdating

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the January 18, 2018, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that denied the request to backdate the claim for benefits prior to January 7, 2018. After due notice was issued, a hearing was scheduled and held by telephone conference call on February 16, 2018. The claimant participated personally. The Claimant's Exhibit A was admitted into evidence. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative records including the fact-finding documents. Based on the evidence, the arguments presented, and the law, the administrative law judge enters the following findings of fact, reasoning and conclusions of law, and decision.

ISSUE:

May the claim be backdated prior to January 7, 2018?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant filed a claim for benefits with an effective date of January 7, 2018, and desires to backdate the claim to December 31, 2017. The claimant failed to establish a claim during the first week he was unemployed. He delayed filing because he misunderstood instructions given to him by a co-worker.

The department has not failed to recognize the expiration of the claimant's previous benefit year and there is not an interstate claim against another state which has been determined as ineligible.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant's request to backdate the claim must be denied.

Iowa Code section 96.6(1) provides:

1. Filing. Claims for benefits shall be made in accordance with such regulations as the department may prescribe.

Effective Wednesday, July 12, 2017, for claims effective July 16, 2017:

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)h(1) and (2) provide:

Procedures for workers desiring to file a claim for benefits for unemployment insurance.

(1) Section 96.6 of the employment security law of Iowa states that claims for benefits shall be made in accordance with such rules as the department prescribes. The department of workforce development accordingly prescribes:

h. Effective starting date for the benefit year.

(1) Filing for benefits shall be effective as of Sunday of the current calendar week in which, subsequent to the individual's separation from work, an individual files a claim for benefits.

(2) The claim may be backdated prior to the first day of the calendar week in which the claimant does report and file a claim for the following reasons:

1. The failure of the department to recognize the expiration of the claimant's previous benefit year;
2. The claimant filed an interstate claim against another state which has been determined as ineligible.

While the claimant has presented reasons for backdating that may have previously been considered "sufficient grounds" to grant the request, after an agency and legislative rulemaking process, effective July 12, 2017, Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)h(1) and (2) allows backdating for only the two reasons cited above. Neither of those reasons applies in this case. Accordingly, the backdating request must be denied.

DECISION:

The January 18, 2018, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. The claimant's request to backdate the claim is denied.

Jennifer L. Beckman
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

jlb/scn