# IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

BETTY J RUSSELL Claimant

APPEAL NO. 21A-UI-18728-AD-T
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

**DECISION** 

IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 01/17/21

Claimant: Appellant (1)

PL116-136, Sec. 2104(f)(2) – Overpayment of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation

### STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On August 20, 2021, Betty Russell (claimant/appellant) appealed the August 10, 2021 (reference 04) decision that concluded the claimant was overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation in the amount of \$2,100.00 for the seven-week period between January 17 and March 6, 2021, as a result of a decision denying benefits.

A telephone hearing was held on October 18, 2021, pursuant to due notice. Claimant participated personally. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record.

## ISSUE:

Was the claimant overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)?

#### FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds:

The administrative record shows claimant received FPUC in the amount of \$300.00 per week for a total of seven weeks, from the benefit week ending January 23, 2021 and continuing through the benefit week ending March 6, 2021. The total amount of FPUC paid during this period is \$2,100.00.

Claimant was subsequently determined to be ineligible for benefits during that period in a decision dated March 16, 2021. That decision was affirmed on July 22, 2021 and has not been appealed further. See 21A-UI-08679-JC-T.

#### **REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons set forth below, the August 10, 2021 (reference 04) decision that concluded the claimant was overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation in the amount of

\$2,100.00 for the seven-week period between January 17 and March 6, 2021, as a result of a decision denying benefits is AFFIRMED.

PL116-136, Sec. 2104 provides, in pertinent part:

- (b) Provisions of Agreement
- (1) Federal pandemic unemployment compensation.--Any agreement under this section shall provide that the State agency of the State will make payments of regular compensation to individuals in amounts and to the extent that they would be determined if the State law of the State were applied, with respect to any week for which the individual is (disregarding this section) otherwise entitled under the State law to receive regular compensation, as if such State law had been modified in a manner such that the amount of regular compensation (including dependents' allowances) payable for any week shall be equal to
- (A) the amount determined under the State law (before the application of this paragraph), plus
- (B) an additional amount of \$600 (in this section referred to as "Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation").

. . . .

- (f) Fraud and Overpayments
- (2) Repayment.--In the case of individuals who have received amounts of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to which they were not entitled, the State shall require such individuals to repay the amounts of such Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to the State agency, except that the State agency may waive such repayment if it determines that –
- (A) the payment of such Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation was without fault on the part of any such individual; and
- (B) such repayment would be contrary to equity and good conscience.

The American Rescue Plan subsequently extended the FPUC program but reduced the supplemental benefit to \$300.00 per week.

The administrative record shows claimant received FPUC in the amount of \$300.00 per week for a total of seven weeks, from the benefit week ending January 23, 2021 and continuing through the benefit week ending March 6, 2021. The total amount of FPUC paid during this period is \$2,100.00.

Claimant was subsequently determined to be ineligible for benefits during that period in a decision dated March 16, 2021. That decision was affirmed on July 22, 2021 and has not been appealed further. See 21A-UI-08679-JC-T.

Because the claimant was ineligible for regular unemployment insurance (UI) benefits during the above period she was also ineligible for FPUC during that period. Claimant has therefore been overpaid FPUC in the amount of \$2,100.00.

#### **DECISION:**

The August 10, 2021 (reference 04) decision that concluded the claimant was overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation in the amount of \$2,100.00 for the seven-week period between January 17 and March 6, 2021, as a result of a decision denying benefits is AFFIRMED.

Andrew B. Duffelmeyer Administrative Law Judge Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau 1000 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209

and Myslmuga

October 25, 2021

Fax (515) 478-3528

**Decision Dated and Mailed** 

abd/kmi

# Note to Claimant:

If you disagree with this decision, you may file an appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by following the instructions on the first page of this decision.

If this decision determines you have been overpaid federal CARES Act benefits you may request a waiver of the overpayment. Instructions for requesting a waiver can be found at https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-overpayment-and-recovery. If this decision becomes final and you are not eligible for a waiver, you will have to repay the benefits you received.

Individuals who are disqualified from or are otherwise ineligible for <u>regular</u> unemployment insurance benefits but who are unemployed for reasons related to COVID-19 may qualify for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA). **You will need to apply for PUA to determine your eligibility.** Additional information on how to apply for PUA can be found at https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/pua-information.