

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

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**CURTIS L WATERMAN**  
Claimant

**APPEAL 20A-UI-03666-NM-T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 04/05/20  
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

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Iowa Code § 96.4(4) – Monetary Eligibility  
Iowa Code § 96.3(4) – Determination of Benefits

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

On April 18, 2020, the claimant filed an appeal from the April 10, 2020, monetary determination. The claimant was properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on May 19, 2020. Claimant participated and testified.

**ISSUES:**

Is the monetary record dated April 10, 2020, correct?  
Is the claimant monetarily eligible for benefits effective April 5, 2020?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

The base period for the claim year effective April 5, 2020, covers the first through fourth quarters of 2019. Claimant confirmed the wages listed in the monetary record for those quarters are correct and that he did not have any additional wages that were missing.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the monetary record is correct.

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.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.1(11) provides:

Base period. The period of time in which the amount of wages paid to an individual in insured work which determines an individual's eligibility for, and the amount and duration of, benefits. The base period consists of the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the calendar quarter in which the individual's claim for benefits is effective with the following exception. The department shall exclude three or more calendar quarters from the individual's base period in which the individual received workers' compensation or indemnity insurance benefits and substitute consecutive calendar quarters immediately preceding the base period in which the individual did not receive workers' compensation or indemnity insurance benefits. This exception applies under the following conditions:

a. The individual did not work in and receive wages from insured work for three calendar quarters of the base period, or

b. The individual did not work in and receive wages from insured work for two calendar quarters and lacked qualifying wages from insured work to establish a valid claim for benefits during another quarter of the base period.

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.

Here, the claimant does not dispute the information in his monetary determination. Claimant confirmed the wages are correct and no wages are missing. Unfortunately, this means claimant does not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits, due to a lack of qualified earnings within the base period.

*Note to Claimant:* This decision determines you are not eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits. 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. Individuals who do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits but are unemployed due to for reasons related to COVID-19 may qualify for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA). **You will need to apply for PUA to determine your eligibility under the program.** Information on how to apply for PUA can be found at <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/pua-information>.

**DECISION:**

The April 10, 2020, monetary determination is correct. Claimant is not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits due to a lack of qualified earnings in his base period.

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Nicole Merrill  
Administrative Law Judge

May 27, 2020  
Decision Dated and Mailed

nm/mh