

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

**MUHAMMAD I ABDULLAH**  
Claimant

**IOWA WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**APPEAL 20A-UI-03263-AD-T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**OC: 03/29/20**  
**Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Iowa Code § 96.4(4)a-c – Monetary Eligibility and Subsequent Benefit Year

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

Claimant filed a timely appeal from the April 10, 2020 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that determined claimant was not eligible for benefits in a second benefit year.

After due notice was issued, a hearing was held on May 11, 2020. Claimant participated personally. Official notice was taken of the administrative record.

**ISSUE:**

Has the claimant worked and earned sufficient wages to be eligible for benefits in a second benefit year?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

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

The claimant's weekly benefit amount in the prior claim year effective February 24, 2019, was \$286.00. He wishes to claim benefits during a second claim year effective March 29, 2020.

The claimant did not earn at least eight times the prior claim year's weekly benefit amount in insured wages during or subsequent to the prior claim year beginning March 29, 2020. Claimant has not earned wages for insured work since filing for benefits effective February 24, 2019. Claimant has performed work as a sports official since that time but has been paid as an independent contractor.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the April 10, 2020 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that determined claimant was not eligible for benefits in a second benefit year is **AFFIRMED**.

Effective July 2, 2017, Iowa Code section 96.4(4)a and c provides:

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

4. 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.

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.

Because the claimant did not demonstrate an ongoing connection to the labor market by earning at least eight times the prior claim year's weekly benefit amount in insured wages during or subsequent to the claim year beginning February 24, 2019, he is not eligible to receive benefits during the current claim year beginning March 29, 2020.

**DECISION:**

The April 10, 2020 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that determined claimant was not eligible for benefits in a second benefit year is **AFFIRMED**. If claimant does earn eight times the prior claim year's WBA in insured wages, he may present evidence of that to IWD to determine eligibility.



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Andrew B. Duffelmeyer  
Administrative Law Judge  
Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau  
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May 18, 2020  
Decision Dated and Mailed

abd/mh

*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 who are currently 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 under the program.** Additional information on how to apply for PUA can be found at <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/pua-information>.