

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

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**DAVID C LEWIS**  
Claimant

**APPEAL 17A-UI-00406-CL-T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 12/04/16  
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

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Iowa Code § 96.6(1) – Filing Claims  
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)g – Retroactive Benefits

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

The claimant filed an appeal from the January 10, 2017, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that denied the request for retroactive benefits. After due notice was issued, a telephone conference hearing was scheduled for February 6, 2017. Claimant participated.

**ISSUE:**

Should the claimant's request for retroactive benefits be granted for the four-week period ending December 31, 2016?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having heard the testimony and having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant filed a claim effective December 4, 2016. He did not file continued claims by online web application for the four-week period ending December 31, 2016, and did not inquire about the issue of benefit non-payment with Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) until the week of January 1, 2017. He did not read the paper or online version of the Unemployment Insurance Benefits Handbook. Claimant did not realize he was required to file a weekly claim in order to receive benefits during his first four weeks of unemployment until he called the agency during the week of January 1, 2017, to find out why he had not been receiving benefits. He has filed continued claims and has received regular weekly benefits since the week ending January 7, 2017.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant's request for retroactive benefits is denied.

Iowa Code § 96.6(1) provides:

96.6 Filing — determination — appeal.

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

In order to be eligible for weekly benefits, the claimant must file an online web application continued claim or show good cause for the failure to do so to support a request for retroactive benefits. Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)g.

Claimant's failure to read and follow the instructions in the Unemployment Insurance Benefits Handbook is not considered a good reason for having failed to file weekly online web application continued claims. Although claimant was confused about the requirement to file a claim for weekly benefits during his first weeks of unemployment, the handbook makes clear individuals seeking benefits are required to file a weekly claim in order to receive benefits. Additionally, claimant should have contacted the agency as soon as he realized he was not receiving benefits in order to resolve any issues. Retroactive benefits are denied.

**DECISION:**

The January 10, 2017, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. The claimant's request for retroactive benefits is denied.

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Christine A. Louis  
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Decision Dated and Mailed

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