IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

REBECCA N LUKAU Claimant

APPEAL NO. 21A-UI-23919-AD-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 10/18/20

Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code § 96.3(7) - Recovery of Benefit Overpayment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On October 25, 2021, Rebecca Lukau (claimant/appellant) appealed the decision dated October 19, 2021 (reference 02) that concluded the claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$2,337.00 for the eight-week period between October 25 and December 19, 2020 as a result of a decision denying benefits.

A telephone hearing was held on December 16, 2021, pursuant to due notice. Claimant participated personally. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record.

ISSUE:

Was the claimant overpaid regular, state unemployment insurance benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

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

The administrative record shows claimant received regular, state unemployment insurance benefits in the gross amount of \$2,337.00 during the period in question.

Claimant was subsequently determined to be ineligible for benefits during that period in a decision dated December 24, 2020. That decision remains in force. See 21A-UI-02574-SC-T; 21B-UI-02574.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons set forth below, the decision dated October 19, 2021 (reference 02) that concluded the claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$2,337.00 for the eight-week period between October 25 and December 19, 2020 as a result of a decision denying benefits is AFFIRMED.

Iowa Code section 96.3(7) provides, in pertinent part:

- 7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits.
- a. If an individual receives benefits for which the individual is subsequently determined to be ineligible, even though the individual acts in good faith and is not otherwise at fault, the benefits shall be recovered. The department in its discretion may recover the overpayment of benefits either by having a sum equal to the overpayment deducted from any future benefits payable to the individual or by having the individual pay to the department a sum equal to the overpayment.
- b. (1) (a) If the department determines that an overpayment has been made, the charge for the overpayment against the employer's account shall be removed and the account shall be credited with an amount equal to the overpayment from the unemployment compensation trust fund and this credit shall include both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The administrative record shows claimant received regular, state unemployment insurance benefits in the gross amount of \$2,337.00 during the period in question.

Claimant was subsequently determined to be ineligible for benefits during that period in a decision dated December 24, 2020. That decision remains in force. See 21A-UI-02574-SC-T; 21B-UI-02574.

Because claimant received benefits totaling \$2,337.00 for which she was found ineligible, she has been overpaid in that amount.

The administrative law judge wishes to note that claimant may be eligible for federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) during the period in question. Further information on PUA, including how to apply, is set forth below.

DECISION:

The decision dated October 19, 2021 (reference 02) that concluded the claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$2,337.00 for the eight-week period between October 25 and December 19, 2020 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 Fax (515) 478-3528

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<u>December 29, 2021</u> Decision Dated and Mailed

abd/abd

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.