

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

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**INGA M JAHN**  
Claimant

**APPEAL 17A-UI-11439-SC-T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 10/01/17**  
**Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Iowa Code § 96.6(1) – Filing Claims  
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)a & h(1) & (2) – Backdating

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

Inga M. Jahn (claimant) filed a timely appeal from the October 23, 2017, reference 02, unemployment insurance decision that denied the request to backdate the claim for benefits prior to October 1, 2017. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call on November 30, 2017. The claimant participated.

**ISSUE:**

May the claim be backdated prior to October 1, 2017?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant filed a claim for benefits with an effective date of October 1, 2017, and desires to backdate the claim to September 17, 2017. The claimant delayed filing the claim because she did not know about Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) or how to file for unemployment insurance benefits. The claimant had not previously had to file benefits and moved to Iowa in the fall of 2015. When she began an online search for unemployment in Iowa, the only response she received was “unemployment insurance” which she believed was related to medical insurance that she did not need. It was not until she took a typing test at IWD the week of October 1 that she learned of the process to file for benefits and that it was not called “unemployment compensation” in the state of Iowa. The claimant did not file her claim for benefits in another state and she was not between claim years.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant’s request to backdate the claim is denied.

Iowa Code § 96.6(1) provides:

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

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)h(1) and (2), effective July 12, 2017, provide:

Procedures for workers desiring to file a claim for benefits for unemployment insurance.

(1) Section 96.6 of the employment security law of Iowa states that claims for benefits shall be made in accordance with such rules as the department prescribes. The department of workforce development accordingly prescribes:

h. Effective starting date for the benefit year.

(1) Filing for benefits shall be effective as of Sunday of the current calendar week in which, subsequent to the individual's separation from work, an individual files a claim for benefits.

(2) The claim may be backdated prior to the first day of the calendar week in which the claimant does report and file a claim for the following reasons:

1. The failure of the department to recognize the expiration of the claimant's previous benefit year;
2. The claimant filed an interstate claim against another state which has been determined as ineligible.

Effective July 12, 2017, Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)h(1) and (2) allows backdating for only the two reasons cited above. Neither of those reasons applies in this case. Accordingly, the backdating request must be denied.

**DECISION:**

The October 23, 2017, reference 02, unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. The claimant's request to backdate the claim to September 17, 2017, is denied.

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Stephanie R. Callahan  
Administrative Law Judge

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Decision Dated and Mailed

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