

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

JANET L HOLLAND
Claimant

JOHNSON COUNTY
Employer

APPEAL 15A-UI-07477-JP-T
**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

OC: 05/17/15
Claimant: Respondent (4)

Iowa Code § 96.19(38)a & b – Total and Partial Unemployment
Iowa Code § 96.7(2)a(2) – Same Base Period Employment
Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Ability to and Availability for Work
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.22(2)f – Part-Time Worker – Able and Available

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer filed an appeal from the June 18, 2015, (reference 02) unemployment insurance decision that allowed benefits. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on July 30, 2015. Claimant participated. Employer participated through Carrie Nierling and Chris Edwards. Lora Shramek and Greg Means were available on behalf of the employer, but did not testify.

ISSUES:

Is the claimant partially unemployed and available for work, and if so, is the employer's account liable for potential charges?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having heard the testimony and having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant is employed as an on-call or as-needed precinct election official with hours as needed. No certain number of hours is guaranteed due to the fluctuation in the number of elections in a given year. Claimant has other regular employment in the base period with ACT INC.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes that the claimant's availability for work with this employer is moot.

Iowa Code § 96.4-3 provides:

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

3. The individual is able to work, is available for work, and is earnestly and actively seeking work. This subsection is waived if the individual is deemed partially

unemployed, while employed at the individual's regular job, as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "b", unnumbered paragraph 1, or temporarily unemployed as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "c". The work search requirements of this subsection and the disqualification requirement for failure to apply for, or to accept suitable work of section 96.5, subsection 3 are waived if the individual is not disqualified for benefits under section 96.5, subsection 1, paragraph "h".

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.22(2)i(1) provides:

Benefit eligibility conditions. For an individual to be eligible to receive benefits the department must find that the individual is able to work, available for work, and earnestly and actively seeking work. The individual bears the burden of establishing that the individual is able to work, available for work, and earnestly and actively seeking work.

i. On-call workers.

(1) Substitute workers (i.e., post office clerks, railroad extra board workers), who hold themselves available for one employer and who do not accept other work, are not available for work within the meaning of the law and are not eligible for benefits.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.22(2)i(3) provides:

Benefits eligibility conditions. For an individual to be eligible to receive benefits the department must find that the individual is able to work, available for work, and earnestly and actively seeking work. The individual bears the burden of establishing that the individual is able to work, available for work, and earnestly and actively seeking work.

(2) Available for work. The availability requirement is satisfied when an individual is willing, able, and ready to accept suitable work which the individual does not have good cause to refuse, that is, the individual is genuinely attached to the labor market....

i. On-call workers.

(3) An individual whose wage credits earned in the base period of the claim consist exclusively of wage credits by performing on-call work, such as a banquet worker, railway worker, substitute school teacher or any other individual whose work is solely on-call work during the base period, is not considered an unemployed individual within the meaning of Iowa Code § 96.19(38)"a" and "b." An individual who is willing to accept only on-call work is not considered to be available for work.

Because claimant was hired to work only on-call or as-needed, she is not considered unemployed within the meaning of the law as it pertains to this employer. When an individual is hired to work on-call, the implied agreement is that they will only work when work is available and that work will not be regularly available. Thus any reduction in hours is directly related to the on-call status as no regular hours are guaranteed. However, since there are other wages in the base period, the monetary eligibility of the claimant needs to be examined to determine eligibility based upon the other employment and the lack of regular work with this on-call employer is moot. Accordingly, benefits may be allowed if the claimant is otherwise monetarily eligible and the account of JOHNSON COUNTY (account number 102465-000) shall not be charged.

DECISION:

The June 18, 2015, (reference 02) decision is modified in favor of the appellant. The claimant's on-call status renders availability for this employment moot as she has other qualifying wages in the base period. Benefits are allowed if claimant is otherwise monetarily eligible and the account of JOHNSON COUNTY (account number 102465-000) shall not be charged.

Jeremy Peterson
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

jp/pjs