IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

IRYNA LUHINA Claimant

APPEAL 22A-UI-10168-LJ-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 04/05/20 Claimant: Appellant (1)

PL 116-136, Sec. 2107 – Federal Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation Iowa Code § 96.3(7) – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On April 20, 2022, claimant Iryna Luhina appealed the April 15, 2022, (reference 02) decision that concluded the claimant was overpaid Federal Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation ("PEUC") benefits in the amount of \$12,950.00 for the twenty-five-week period ending April 3, 2021; and overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation ("FPUC") benefits in the amount of \$4,200.00 for the fourteen-week period ending April 3, 2021. The claimant was properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, June 6, 2022, and was held together with 22A-UI-10167-LJ-T. The claimant, Iryna Luhina, participated personally. The administrative law judge took official notice of the claimant's unemployment insurance benefits records.

ISSUE:

Is the claimant overpaid PEUC benefits? Is the claimant overpaid FPUC benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant filed for and has received PEUC benefits in the gross amount of \$12,950.00 for the twenty-five-week period between October 11, 2020 and April 3, 2021. Claimant filed for and received FPUC benefits in the gross amount of \$4,200.00 for the fourteen-week period between December 27, 2020 and April 3, 2021. On April 13, 2021, Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) issued a decision (reference 01) that found claimant was ineligible for PEUC benefits. That decision has been affirmed. See 22A-UI-10167-LJ-T.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow the administrative law judge concludes that the claimant has been overpaid PEUC benefits.

PL 116-136 Sec 2107 provides in pertinent part:

PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.

(2) PROVISIONS OF AGREEMENT. —

Any agreement under paragraph (1) shall provide that the State agency of the State will make payments of pandemic emergency unemployment compensation to individuals who—

(A) have exhausted all rights to regular compensation under the State law or under Federal law with respect to a benefit year (excluding any benefit year that ended before July 1, 2019);

(B) have no rights to regular compensation with respect to a week under such law or any other State unemployment compensation law or to compensation under any other Federal law;

(C) are not receiving compensation with respect to such week under the unemployment compensation law of Canada; and

(D) are able to work, available to work, and actively seeking work.

(emphasis added).

(e) FRAUD AND OVERPAYMENTS.—

. . .

(2) REPAYMENT.—In the case of individuals who have received amounts of pandemic emergency unemployment compensation under this section to which they were not entitled, the State shall require such individuals to repay the amounts of such pandemic emergency unemployment compensation to the State agency, except that the State agency may waive such repayment if it determines that—

(A) the payment of such pandemic emergency unemployment compensation was without fault on the part of any such individual; and

(B) such repayment would be contrary to equity and good conscience.

PL116-136, Sec. 2104 provides, in pertinent part:

(b) Provisions of Agreement

(1) Federal pandemic unemployment compensation.--Any agreement under this section shall provide that the State agency of the State will make payments of regular compensation to individuals in amounts and to the extent that they would be determined if the State law of the State were applied, with respect to any week for which the individual is (disregarding this section) otherwise entitled under the State law to receive regular compensation, as if such State law had been modified in a manner such that the amount of regular compensation (including dependents' allowances) payable for any week shall be equal to

(A) the amount determined under the State law (before the application of this paragraph), plus

(B) an additional amount of \$600 (in this section referred to as "Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation").

. . . .

(f) Fraud and Overpayments

(2) Repayment.--In the case of individuals who have received amounts of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to which they were not entitled, the State shall require such individuals to repay the amounts of such Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to the State agency...

Section 203 of the Continued Assistance for Unemployed Workers Act of 2020 provides in pertinent part:

(a) IN GENERAL. – Section 2104(e) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9023(e)) is amended to read as follows: . . .

"(e) APPLICABILITY. – An agreement entered into under this section shall apply –

(1) to weeks of unemployment beginning after the date on which such agreement is entered into and ending on or before July 31, 2020; and

(2) to weeks of unemployment beginning after December 26, 2020 (or, if later, the date on which such agreement is entered into), and ending on or before March 14, 2021.".

(b) AMOUNT.-

(1) IN GENERAL. – Section 2104(b) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9023(b)) is amended –

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking "of \$600" and inserting "equal to the amount specified in paragraph (3)"; and

(B) by adding at the end of the following new paragraph:

"(3) AMOUNT OF FEDERAL PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.-

"(A) IN GENERAL. – The amount specified in this paragraph is the following amount:

"(i) For weeks of unemployment beginning after the date on which an agreement is entered into under this section and ending on or before July 31, 2020, \$600.

"(ii) For weeks of unemployment beginning after December 26, 2020 (or, if later, the date on which such agreement is entered into), and ending on or before March 14, 2021, \$300.".

The decision that denied claimant eligibility for PEUC benefits remains in effect. Because claimant is not eligible for PEUC benefits, claimant has received PEUC benefits and FPUC benefits to which they were not entitled. The administrative law judge concludes that claimant has been overpaid PEUC benefits and FPUC benefits in the amount outlined in the findings of fact above. Claimant is obligated to repay the PEUC benefits and FPUC benefits unless repayment of this obligation is waived. Instructions on how to apply for a waiver are found below.

DECISION:

The April 15, 2022 (reference 02) decision is affirmed. Claimant has been overpaid PEUC benefits in the amount of \$12,950.00 and FPUC benefits in the amount of \$4,200.00, which must be repaid.

Elizabeth A. Johnson Administrative Law Judge Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau

June 24, 2022 Decision Dated and Mailed

lj/lj

NOTE TO CLAIMANT:

- This decision determines you have been overpaid PEUC benefits and FPUC 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.
- You may also request a waiver of this overpayment. The written request must include the following information:
 - 1. Claimant name & address.
 - 2. Decision number/date of decision.
 - 3. Dollar amount of overpayment requested for waiver.
 - 4. Relevant facts that you feel would justify a waiver.
- The request should be sent to:

Iowa Workforce Development Overpayment waiver request 1000 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 50319

- This Information can also be found on the Iowa Workforce Development website at: <u>https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-overpayment-and-recovery</u>.
- If this decision becomes final and you are not eligible for a waiver, you will have to repay the benefits you received.