IN THE IOWA ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

JOANN H MEADE Claimant

APPEAL NO. 24A-UI-02193-JT-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 12/24/23 Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code Section 96.3(7) - Overpayment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On February 22, 2024, Joann Meade (claimant) filed a time appeal from the February 16, 2024 (reference 02) decision that held she was overpaid \$147.00 in benefits for the week that ended December 30, 2023, based on a January 31, 2023 decision that denied benefits in connection with an able and available determination. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held on March 20, 2024. Claimant participated. Iowa Workforce Development did not comply with the hearing notice instructions to call the toll-free number at the time of the hearing and did not participate. The hearing in this matter was consolidated with the hearing in Appeal Number 24AUI02192JTT. Exhibit A was received into evidence. The administrative law judge took official notice of the following agency administrative records: the reference 01 and 02 decisions, the reference 01 supplemental documents, DBRO, KCCO, KFFV and WAGEA.

ISSUE:

Whether the claimant was overpaid \$147.00 in benefits for the week that ended December 30, 2023, based on a decision that denied benefits in connection with an able and available determination.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

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

Joann Meade (claimant) established an original claim that was effective December 24, 2023 and received \$147.00 in benefits for the week that ended December 30, 2023.

On February 1, 2024, Iowa Workforce Development issued a reference 01 decision that denied benefits effective December 24, 2023, based on the deputy's conclusion the claimant was still employed under the same hours and wages as in the original contract of hire and could not be deemed partially unemployed within the meaning of the law. The reference 01 decision prompted and is the basis for the overpayment decision from which the claimant appeals in the present matter. The reference 01 decision has been affirmed in Appeal Number 24AUI02192JTT.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

lowa Code section 96.3(7)(a) 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.

Because the reference 01 decision disqualified the claimant for benefits for the period beginning December 24, 2023, and because the reference 01 decision remains in effect for the week ending December 30, 2023, the \$147.00 in benefits that claimant received for that week is an overpayment of benefits that claimant must repay.

DECISION:

The February 26, 2024 (reference 02) decision is AFFIRMED. The claimant was overpaid \$147.00 in benefits for the week that ended December 30, 2023, based on the February 1, 2024 (reference 01) decision that denied benefits in connection with an able and available determination. The claimant must repay the overpaid benefits.

James & Timberland

James E. Timberland Administrative Law Judge

March 22, 2024 Decision Dated and Mailed

JET/jkb

APPEAL RIGHTS. If you disagree with the decision, you or any interested party may:

1. Appeal to the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days of the date under the judge's signature by submitting a written appeal via mail, fax, or online to:

Employment Appeal Board 6200 Park Ave Suite 100 Des Moines, Iowa 50321 Fax: (515)281-7191 Online: eab.iowa.gov

The appeal period will be extended to the next business day if the last day to appeal falls on a weekend or a legal holiday.

AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD SHALL STATE CLEARLY:

1) The name, address, and social security number of the claimant.

2) A reference to the decision from which the appeal is taken.

3) That an appeal from such decision is being made and such appeal is signed.

4) The grounds upon which such appeal is based.

An Employment Appeal Board decision is final agency action. If a party disagrees with the Employment Appeal Board decision, they may then file a petition for judicial review in district court.

2. If no one files an appeal of the judge's decision with the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days, the decision becomes final agency action, and you have the option to file a petition for judicial review in District Court within thirty (30) days after the decision becomes final. Additional information on how to file a petition can be found at lowa Code §17A.19, which is online at https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf.

Note to Parties: YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in the appeal or obtain a lawyer or other interested party to do so provided there is no expense to Workforce Development. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, you may obtain the services of either a private attorney or one whose services are paid for with public funds.

Note to Claimant: It is important that you file your weekly claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

SERVICE INFORMATION:

A true and correct copy of this decision was mailed to each of the parties listed.

DERECHOS DE APELACIÓN. Si no está de acuerdo con la decisión, usted o cualquier parte interesada puede:

1. Apelar a la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días de la fecha bajo la firma del juez presentando una apelación por escrito por correo, fax o en línea a:

Employment Appeal Board 6200 Park Ave Suite 100 Des Moines, Iowa 50321 Fax: (515)281-7191 Online: eab.iowa.gov

El período de apelación se extenderá hasta el siguiente día hábil si el último día para apelar cae en fin de semana o día feriado legal.

UNA APELACIÓN A LA JUNTA DEBE ESTABLECER CLARAMENTE:

1) El nombre, dirección y número de seguro social del reclamante.

2) Una referencia a la decisión de la que se toma la apelación.

3) Que se interponga recurso de apelación contra tal decisión y se firme dicho recurso.

4) Los fundamentos en que se funda dicho recurso.

Una decisión de la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo es una acción final de la agencia. Si una de las partes no está de acuerdo con la decisión de la Junta de Apelación de Empleo, puede presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el tribunal de distrito.

2. Si nadie presenta una apelación de la decisión del juez ante la Junta de Apelaciones Laborales dentro de los quince (15) días, la decisión se convierte en acción final de la agencia y usted tiene la opción de presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrito dentro de los treinta (30) días después de que la decisión adquiera firmeza. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en el Código de Iowa §17A.19, que está en línea en https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf.

Nota para las partes: USTED PUEDE REPRESENTARSE en la apelación u obtener un abogado u otra parte interesada para que lo haga, siempre que no haya gastos para Workforce Development. Si desea ser representado por un abogado, puede obtener los servicios de un abogado privado o uno cuyos servicios se paguen con fondos públicos.

Nota para el reclamante: es importante que presente su reclamo semanal según las instrucciones, mientras esta apelación está pendiente, para proteger su derecho continuo a los beneficios.

SERVICIO DE INFORMACIÓN:

Se envió por correo una copia fiel y correcta de esta decisión a cada una de las partes enumeradas.