

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND APPEALS
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION, UI APPEALS BUREAU**

MELANIE L JONES
Claimant

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

**APPEAL 22A-UI-10630-SN-T
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**OC: 06/06/21
Claimant: Appellant (2)**

Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Ability to and Availability for Work
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.22(2) – Able & Available - Benefits Eligibility Conditions

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant, Melanie L Jones, filed an appeal from the April 25, 2022 (reference 07) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits from March 20, 2022 through March 26, 2022 based upon the conclusion she did not perform work searches, even after being warned. The parties were properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on May 23, 2022. The claimant participated. Exhibit A was received into the record. The hearing was held jointly with appeal 22A-UI-08807-SN-T, 22A-UI-10625-SN-T, 22A-UI-10628-SN-T, 22A-UI-10629-SN-T, 22A-UI-12106-SN-T, 22A-UI-12107-SN-T, 22A-UI-12108-SN-T and 22A-UI-12109-SN-T.

ISSUE:

Whether the claimant was able and available to work from March 20, 2022 through March 26, 2022?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

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

The claimant claimed benefits for the week ending March 26, 2022. The claimant uploaded her work search log to the to <https://www.iowaWorks.gov> website. The administrative record KCCO shows the claimant marked zero for each week she made weekly claims. The claimant did not know why that was the case. The claimant meant to enter four for each week she filed. For the week ending March 26, 2022, the claimant applied to four open positions.

The claimant had adequate transportation for that week. She would not have had issues related to her health or childcare that would have prevented her from taking a job. The claimant did not refuse a job that week.

ONLINE RESOURCES:

UI law and administrative rules:

<https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-law-and-administrative-rules>

UI Benefits Handbook:

<https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-claimant-handbook>

Employer UI Handbook: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/employer-handbook>

Report UI fraud: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/report-fraud>

Employer account access and information: <https://www.myiowaui.org/UITIPTaxWeb/>

National Career Readiness Certificate and Skilled Iowa Initiative: <http://skillediowa.org/>

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes that the claimant was able to work and available for work for the week ending March 26, 2022.

Iowa Code section 96.4(3)a provides:

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

3. a. 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 96.1A, subsection 37, paragraph "b", subparagraph (1), or temporarily unemployed as defined in section 96.1A, subsection 37, 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. 871-24.23(28) provides:

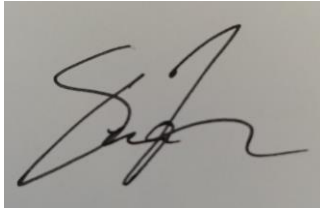
Availability disqualifications. The following are reasons for a claimant being disqualified for being unavailable for work.

(28) A claimant will be ineligible for benefits because of failure to make an adequate work search after having been previously warned and instructed to expand the search for work effort.

The claimant applied to six positions on March 26, 2022. She was also able and available for work. Furthermore, the claimant has not received an appropriate warning prior to the week ending March 26, 2022. For all of these reasons, benefits are granted, provided she is otherwise eligible.

DECISION:

The April 25, 2022, (reference 07) unemployment insurance decision is reversed. The claimant was able to work and available for work for the week ending March 26, 2022. Benefits are granted, provided she is otherwise eligible.



Sean M. Nelson
Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division, UI Appeals Bureau
1000 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209
Fax (515) 725-9067

Decision Dated and Mailed

smn/

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
4th Floor – Lucas Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
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 Iowa Code §17A.19, which is online at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> or by contacting the District Court Clerk of Court <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

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
4th Floor – Lucas Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Fax: (515)281-7191
En línea: 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 se encuentra en línea en <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> o comunicándose con el Tribunal de Distrito Secretario del tribunal <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

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.