

**\$600 weekly Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)  
Questions and Answers**

Q. What is the \$600 payment called?

A. Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)

Q. Where is my \$600 payment?

A. Individuals determined eligible for FPUC may receive a \$600 payment for weeks ending April 4, 2020 to July 25, 2020. Payments have started issuing and will be retroactive, where applicable.

Q. Am I going to get just a one-time payment of \$600?

A. No, the \$600 will be added to eligible weeks of benefits on a weekly basis, retroactive to beginning date March 29, 2020 and continuing until week ending July 25, 2020.

Q. I certified for the week and reported my part-time earnings, but I made too much money to receive any benefits. Will I still get the \$600?

A. No, you will not. In order to be eligible for the \$600, you must be entitled to at least \$1 of regular UI benefits.

Q. Staff cannot see the off-line payment. Where do we refer claimants so they can see if a payment was made?

A. For the first several weeks, you will have to check your own bank records for the deposit. The payment is being made to you by your selected method, but for now, you cannot view it in UI Online. In a few weeks, you should be able to see the extra \$600 payment in UI Online. DUA may issue a separate FPUC (\$600) payment for each eligible week or combine the FPUC (\$600) payment with other benefit payments.

Q. What date does the payment start?

A. The first week a claimant may be eligible for FPUC is the week ending April 4, 2020. Payments have started being issued and will be retroactive, where applicable.

Q. Is it taxable? Can I have taxes taken out?

A. Yes, payments are subject to Massachusetts and federal taxes. Although we do not currently have the ability to withhold taxes from payments, we expect to do so in the near future. Once payments are made through UI Online, payments will be subject to claimants' specified tax withholding preferences.

Q. What day of the week will it be deposited?

A. We are still determining.

Q. How come someone else got it and I did not?

A. DUA has just begun issuing the \$600 payments of FPUC, so not all claimants receiving regular Unemployment Compensation (UC) benefits and Work Share have received their first \$600 payment. Ultimately, claimants who are collecting regular Unemployment Compensation (UC), Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Extended Benefits (EB), Trade Readjustment Act (TRA), Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DA), and Short-time Compensation (STC), also known as Work Share, will receive an additional \$600 per week in FPUC. FPUC payments will begin immediately in Massachusetts for those who are currently collecting benefits on regular UC claims and Work Share. Those receiving benefits from the other specified programs will receive the additional \$600 payments retroactive to March 29, 2020 as soon as their claims are processed and determined eligible.

Q. Will people on extensions get it?

A. Recipients of Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) (for claimants with a benefit year that expired on or after July 1, 2019 and claimants who have exhausted regular benefits in an existing benefit year) and Extended Benefits (EB) will receive an additional \$600 per week in FPUC.

Q. Will self-employed people (1099) get it?

A. Self-employed individuals qualifying for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) will receive an additional \$600 per week in FPUC.

Q. Is this for 13 weeks? Will I get all 13 payments?

A. The \$600 will be added to all eligible weeks of benefits in the programs specified above retroactive to the week beginning March 29, 2020 and through the week ending July 25, 2020. FPUC payments will begin immediately in Massachusetts for those who are currently collecting regular UC benefits and Work Share. Those qualifying for Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), Extended Benefits (EB), Trade Readjustment Act (TRA), and Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DA) will receive the additional \$600 payments retroactive to the week beginning March 29, 2020 as soon as their claims are processed and determined eligible.

Q. I thought the \$600 weekly payments lasted through July 31, 2020. Why does DUA say it is through the week ending July 25, 2020?

A. The last week claimants can receive the \$600 weekly payment is the benefit week ending *on or before* July 31, 2020. In Massachusetts, the benefit week ends on Saturday. The last Saturday before July 31, 2020 is Saturday, July 25, 2020.