## **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

## How to Establish or Re-Open a Claim



Have you established an initial claim for unemployment insurance benefits with the Vermont **Department of Labor in the last 12 months?** If so, you likely have an open benefit year and will need to re-open your claim. If you are unsure, go to <u>labor.vermont.gov</u> and log-in to the UI Claimant Portal to check your status. If you are unable to log-in, please review the steps below.

## Establish an Initial Claim for Benefits

• Visit <u>labor.vermont.gov/stepsforunemployment</u> to establish a new claim for benefits.

\*Please note: An email address is required to establish an initial claim online. Claimants will receive email communications from the Department regarding future claim and payment information.

• Once your claim has been established, you can continue to file a weekly claim for benefits through either the UI Claimant Portal at <u>labor.vermont.gov</u> or over the phone by dialing 1-800-983-2300.

## How to Re-Open a Claim for Benefits

- Log into the UI Claimant Portal using your Social Security Number and account PIN.
- If you do not remember your PIN or have any other problem, contact our Claimant Assistance Center at 1-877-214-3332.
- Once logged-in, click the "re-open your claim" link on the welcome page.

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• After re-opening your claim, continue to file your weekly claim for each week you are unemployed, either through the UI Claimant Portal or by phone at 1-800-983-2300.

Claimants are required to inform the Department of Labor of any remunerations including, but not limited to: Severance Pay, Holiday Pay (Holidays as defined by State law or the Unemployment Insurance Board Rule), Vacation Pay, Sick Pay, and Wages in lieu of notice. Complete information about a claimant's responsibilities while filing for unemployment can be found in the Department's UI Claimant Handbook.

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