



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor Proclamation

State Capital
Boise

WHEREAS, individuals may be temporarily unemployed through no fault of their own because of quarantines, reduction of work, and other reasons related to COVID-19, and those individuals directly affected by COVID-19 may experience potential loss of income, health care, and medical coverage, and ability to pay for housing and basic needs, thereby placing increased demands on already strained regional and local health and safety resources such as shelters and food banks;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Brad Little, Governor of the State of Idaho, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Idaho, and the laws of this State, including Sections 46-601 and 46-1008, Idaho Code, do hereby order and direct that:

- 1. The Idaho Department of Labor is ordered and directed:*
 - a. to provide notification of the availability of unemployment compensation to employees at the time of separation from employment;*
 - b. to ensure that claimants for unemployment compensation, and assistance with the application process, are accessible by phone and online;*
 - c. to notify claimants for unemployment benefits when an application is received and is being processed, and, where an application is unable to be processed, provide information about steps the claimant can take to ensure the successful processing of the application;*
 - d. to not deny unemployment benefits, or enter findings of willful misrepresentation under the Employment Security Law, Sections 72-1301 et seq., Idaho Code, on the sole basis that the claimant entered an incorrect reason for separation when applying for benefits, if the claimant was separated from employment because of the direction of a medical professional, local health authority, employer, or state or local government, that the claimant be isolated or quarantined as a consequence of COVID-19, even if not actually diagnosed with COVID-19;*
 - e. to continue to maintain and strengthen access to Idaho's unemployment compensation system, including through initial and continued claims.*
- 2. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in the Employment Security Law, or regulations of the Idaho Department of Labor, claimants who are temporarily unemployed for reasons related to COVID-19, and who have a reasonable assurance from their employer that continuing employment exists shall be considered job-attached, and as having met the available for suitable work, and seeking work personal eligibility conditions of Section 72-1366(4)(a)(i), Idaho Code.*

3. *Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in the Employment Security Law, or regulations of the Idaho Department of Labor, the one-week waiting period in Employment Security Law shall be waived for claimants making application for unemployment benefits on or after March 8, 2020, who otherwise meet the personal eligibility requirements of the Employment Security Law, and whose separation from employment occurs during the state of emergency declared pursuant to Section 46-1008, Idaho Code, by my Proclamation dated March 13, 2020.*
4. *Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in the Employment Security Law, or regulations of the Idaho Department of Labor, claimants who become unemployed because of their quarantine or isolation related to COVID-19 at the direction of their medical professional, local health authority, employer, or state or local government, shall, during such period of quarantine or isolation, be considered as having met the available for suitable work, and seeking work personal eligibility conditions of Section 72-1366(4)(a)(i), Idaho Code, and unemployed through no fault of their own.*
5. *During the state of emergency declared pursuant to Section 46-1008, Idaho Code, by my Proclamation dated March 13, 2020, any benefit paid on unemployment claims described in Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 above shall not be charged to the experience rating account of the employer who otherwise would have been charged.*
6. *To effectuate the purposes of this Order, the Idaho Department of Labor shall interpret flexibly, and may waive where appropriate, non-jurisdictional procedural requirements of the Employment Security Law.*
7. *In addition, the Idaho Department of Labor, and the Idaho Industrial Commission, shall have the discretion, for good cause shown, to extend by a period not to exceed fourteen (14) days the time for filing appeals specified in Section 72-1368, Idaho Code. Good cause under this provision shall be interpreted flexibly to effectuate the purposes of this Order.*
8. *This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of Idaho, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.*



Lawrence Denney
SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 27th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty.

Brad Little
GOVERNOR