Delaware Department of Labor Announces Additional Extended Benefits for Unemployment

For Immediate Release
July 20, 2020
Contact: Kenneth Briscoe
Director of Communications
Kenneth.Briscoe@delaware.gov

(Wilmington, DE) – The Delaware Department of Labor announced today that Delaware has already begun offering the Federal-State Extended Benefits program for those who have exhausted their previous unemployment benefits.

Delaware's most recent insured unemployment rate (IUR) exceeded the 5.0 percent threshold and exceeds the 120 percent of the corresponding average rate in the prior two years that triggered the state onto a 13-week Extended Benefit period.

Under federal and state law, the extended unemployment benefits program offers up to an additional 13 weeks of benefits to individuals who have exhausted both their regular unemployment benefits and 13 weeks of the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) assistance.

Upon exhaustion of regular UI Benefits and PEUC entitlement, the Delaware Department of Labor will issue written notification to all individuals who are eligible to apply for the new extended benefits program. The weekly benefit amount (WBA) under the program is the same as the individual received for regular unemployment compensation. In addition, those eligible for extended benefits will receive an additional $600 Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, but only through July 25, 2020.

Although the work search requirements under state law have been temporarily suspended due to the pandemic, once those work search requirements are reinstituted, state law has enhanced work search requirements for extended benefits.

The first group of claimants exhausting their PEUC benefits with eligibility to receive extended benefits starting June 28, 2020 after they filed an initial application and completed the weekly certification. All eligible claimants receive written

notification from the Delaware DOL that specifies they can apply over the phone by calling the Unemployment TeleBenefits Hotline at **(800) 794-3032**, **(302) 761-6576,** or online by visiting https://ui.delawareworks.com.

###