

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)

What is Disaster Unemployment Assistance?

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is a federally funded program that provides temporary financial assistance to individuals whose employment or self-employment has been lost or interrupted due to a major disaster.

What is a Major Disaster?

An example of a major disaster includes hurricanes, tornadoes, several storms, earthquakes, or any other similar catastrophic event.

Eligibility Requirements

You may be eligible for DUA benefits if you have been directly affected by the disaster and are not eligible for regular state unemployment benefits.

You must:

- Have a week of unemployment following the date the disaster began.
- Be unable to reach your current place of employment.
- Have been scheduled to start work, but you no longer have a job.
- Have become the primary support of the household because the head of household died as a direct result of the disaster.
- Be unable to work because of an injury caused as a direct result of the disaster.

The following information is required to apply for DUA:

1. Your Social Security Number
2. Your valid government-issued picture identification
3. Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Employment Authorized Documentation if not a U.S. Citizen
4. Employment history for the last 18 months including name(s), address(es) and phone number(s)
5. Proof of employment or self-employment, including but not limited to:
 - Most recently completed income tax returns
 - Financial statements
 - Bank records
 - Recent pay stubs or 1099 documents
 - Orders, invoices or contracts for service

Important: A regular state unemployment insurance (UI) claim must be filed prior to any consideration for DUA benefits. Only individuals determined not to be eligible for regular UI benefits will be considered for DUA benefits.

Steps to File a Claim for Regular UI

To Apply Online:

1. Visit dol.georgia.gov.
2. Select **MyUI Claimant Portal**.
3. Follow the instructions to create a password, complete the identity verification process and submit your unemployment claim application.

To Apply in Person:

- Visit your local Georgia Department of Labor Career Center.
- A list of Career Centers can be found at dol.georgia.gov under Contact Us or by calling 1-877-709-8185.
- Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Application Process and Deadlines

Once you have submitted your regular UI claim, it will be reviewed to determine if you are eligible for regular UI benefits. If you are not eligible for regular UI benefits and you have been directly affected by the disaster, you will be notified to complete a DUA application and provide additional information. Your DUA application will be reviewed to determine if you are eligible for DUA benefits.

Your application for DUA benefits must be submitted no later than 60 days from the date the public was first advised about the availability of DUA benefits.

Visit dol.georgia.gov for more information regarding Disaster Unemployment Assistance benefits and application deadlines.