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US Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia

COVID-19 Resources for Gig Workers

There are several programs and relief initiatives in the American Rescue Plan (ARPS) Act. This guide can serve as a starting point to guide you in the right direction.

Unemployment Insurance

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act extends eligibility for programs created in previous COVID-19 relief legislation, including the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Program, the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation Program (PEUC), and the Mixed Earners Unemployment Compensation Program (MEUC). The ARP also expands the existing Unemployment Insurance program to provide further financial support in the form of adding an additional \$300 to every weekly unemployment benefit through September 6, 2021.

Who can apply?

As a continuation of prior relief packages, unemployment assistance now includes part-time, self-employed, contractors, and gig workers. These workers are eligible through the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program. Eligibility lasts through September 6, 2021 if unemployment is related to the coronavirus.

Are there any additional resources for mixed earners?

Yes, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act extends \$100 supplemental unemployment benefits for mixed earners (those who receive both W-2 and non-W-2 wages) through September 6, 2021. The Virginia Employment Commission is still working to implement the Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation program and expect the application to be available by April 26, 2021. The application will be accessible through Gov2Go, the same site you will use to file your traditional claim.

Where can I apply?

You can apply for unemployment insurance and the new Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program through the Virginia Employment Commission by calling: 1-866-832-2363 or visiting <http://www.vec.virginia.gov/unemployed>. There may be long wait times by phone as a result of high volume.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program in Virginia, call: 1-866-832-2363 or visit: <http://www.vec.virginia.gov/covid19/>.

Help for Virginians in Need

- For help with child care, heating and cooling bills, health care, and cash assistance, call: 1-855-635-4370 or visit: <https://commonhelp.virginia.gov/>
- For a statewide directory with resources for food assistance, rent assistance, assistance applying for unemployment insurance, and more, call: 211 or visit: <https://211virginia.org/>.
- For the National Suicide Prevention Hotline, call: 1-800-273-8255 or visit: <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>.
- For the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration Disaster Distress Helpline, call: 1-800-985-5990 or visit: <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/disaster-distress-helpline>.
- For the National Domestic Violence Hotline, call: 1-800-799-7233 or visit: <https://www.thehotline.org/help/>.

Additional Assistance

Senator Warner's office stands ready to assist with any coronavirus and non-coronavirus federal issues. **If you or a loved one is currently experiencing an issue with a federal agency**, please contact Senator Warner's office by calling: (202) 224-2023 or visiting: <https://www.warner.senate.gov/>.