How to Claim UIF Unemployment Benefits

Unemployed workers must apply for benefits at their nearest labour centre in person. They must be registered as work-seekers and take the necessary documents with them.

Claiming Unemployment Benefits

If workers want to claim unemployment benefits they must use the following steps:

Step 1: Get the documents ready

Before workers can claim, they must get the following documents ready:

- 13-digit bar-coded ID or passport;
- form UI-2.8 for banking details;
- form UI-19 to show that you are no longer working for your employer; and
- proof of registration as a work-seeker.

Step 2: Go to the nearest labour centre

Unemployed workers must go to the nearest labour centre themselves and hand in the documents. Staff at the labour centre will assist them with all the processes and give them more information.

Step 3: Follow all the instructions of the staff at the labour centre

Staff at the labour centre may ask unemployed workers to go for training or advice or to visit the labour centre at certain times. Workers should do what they ask, or they may not be able to claim.

Related Links

- Basic Guide to UIF Contributions
- Employers must pay UIF contributions of 2% of the value of each worker's pay per month. The employer and the worker contribute 1% each.
- Basic Guide to UIF Registration
- All employers must register with the UIF or SARS.
- Basic Guide to UIF Unemployment Benefits
- Workers who become unemployed have the right to claim from UIF.
- How To Apply to Pay the UIF Annually
- Employers who want to pay UIF annually may do so before the 7 of March every year.
- How To Claim UIF Dependants Benefits
- Dependants who want benefits must take the necessary forms to their nearest labour centre.
- How To Claim UIF Illness Benefits
- Ill workers must take the necessary documents to their nearest labour centre or get someone to go on their behalf.
- How To Claim UIF Maternity Benefits
- Workers on maternity leave must apply for benefits at their nearest labour centre.
- How To do UIF Declarations
- Employers can mail, fax, email or do their declarations online.
- Form UI-19 Declaration of information of commercial employees and workers employed in a private household
- Employers' must forward this form to the UIF, PRETORIA, 0052 or alternatively fax.
- Form UI-2.8 Application to pay UIF benefits into banking account
- Application to pay UIF benefits into banking account