

# UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION



## NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES

As an employee of this company, you are covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI). The UI program is administered by the Division of Employment and Training Services of the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

**The purpose of UI is to provide partial replacement of wages between jobs.** If a business has to reduce wages or hours, or temporarily lay off workers, UI gives workers financial security and temporary buying power so they can remain in the community. This, in turn, helps employers keep their trained work force. UI payments protect the economy in Alaska's communities until unemployed workers are reemployed. UI helps to reduce the family and community problems caused by layoffs or a lack of jobs.

**You and your employer both pay your UI premiums (taxes).** You pay about 27 percent and your employer pays 73 percent. Generally speaking, if you receive one week of UI benefits, you receive as much or more than you paid into the program for the year. Your employer may withhold from your earnings the employee portion of the UI tax. Wages in excess of the maximum annual taxable wage set for the calendar year are non-taxable. Current and past years' maximum annual taxable wage base and the employee portion of the UI tax rates are posted on the Employment Security Tax website at: [labor.alaska.gov/estax/faq/w1.htm](http://labor.alaska.gov/estax/faq/w1.htm).

**As with any insurance, you must meet certain qualifications to be eligible for benefits.** You must have earned wages in jobs that are covered by the law, file your claim for UI, and register for work with the Alaska Employment Service or your union. You must also be ready, willing and able to accept suitable work. If you quit or are fired from your last job, or if anything is keeping you from accepting full-time work, you may not immediately be eligible for benefits.

To file a **NEW** claim or **REOPEN** an existing Alaska claim for UI benefits on the Internet, go to [labor.alaska.gov](http://labor.alaska.gov) and click on "File Unemployment Benefits Online."

To file for UI by telephone and for all other UI assistance, contact your local UI claim center. The phone numbers are listed below. If you do not reside in one of the cities below, use the toll free number.

<b>Anchorage:</b>	(907) 269-4700	<b>Juneau/outside Alaska:</b>	(907) 465-5552
<b>Fairbanks:</b>	(907) 451-2871	<b>All other areas in Alaska:</b>	(888) 252-2557

The toll-free telephone number to connect to Alaska Relay is (800) 770-8973 or voice (800) 770-8255.

**You may be entitled to a refund of excess employee contributions** to the UI Trust Fund if you had two or more employers in a calendar year, your withholdings exceeded the maximum annual employee tax and your overpayment is \$5 or greater. For the year you are claiming a refund, the filing deadline for your application is Dec. 31 of the following calendar year. (If you had more than the legal maximum employee deduction withheld by any one employer, your employer is responsible for refunding this excess deduction to you.) To obtain an Employee Application for Refund, write the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, P.O. Box 115509, Juneau, AK 99811-5509 or email Tax at: [esd.tax@alaska.gov](mailto:esd.tax@alaska.gov) or download the form at: [labor.alaska.gov/estax/forms/toc\\_forms.htm](http://labor.alaska.gov/estax/forms/toc_forms.htm).



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