

## Common Mistakes

made by

# Unemployment Insurance

claimants

**Unemployment Insurance (UI) provides temporary financial assistance to qualified individuals who have lost their jobs, through no fault of their own, until they find other employment.**

Navigating through the UI system can be confusing. These are common mistakes or misunderstandings related to UI benefits, provided to ensure your continued eligibility.

- **Not reporting income from part-time or temporary work** while looking for a full-time position.
- **Waiting until you receive your first paycheck before notifying the State UI Office** about your return to work.
- **Believing that UI benefits are “yours”** which you paid into an account while you were working. UI benefits are financed by employers’ state payroll tax, not from workers.
- **Not actively searching for work.** You must actively search for work each week you file a claim for UI benefits.

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- **Not being available to accept a new job.**  
Conflicts like attending school during work hours or limitations with child care or transportation could limit your work availability.

While filing, you are required to follow all rules and reporting regulations. Non-compliance can result in serious consequences:

- Prosecution by government authorities
- Possible jail or prison sentences
- Repaying the UI benefits collected, plus fines
- Forfeiting future income tax refunds
- Losing the eligibility to collect future UI benefits



Online UI filing services available include:

- Filing a new initial claim application\*
- Reopening an existing claim\*
- Filing for an extension of benefits\*
- Filing a weekly certification
- Updating personal information
- Viewing payment history

\*Your claim will not be complete until you have received a confirmation number.

**For more information**  
visit [www.sd.uiclaims.com](http://www.sd.uiclaims.com)



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