

NEWS RELEASE

For Statewide Distribution



Iowa Workforce Development

For Immediate Release

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Iowa Workforce Development's Unemployment Insurance Claim System Enhanced

Des Moines, IA - Persons filing for unemployment insurance benefits may now do so at their convenience from home or at any Internet connected computer at www.iowaworkforce.org. This service is also available at any of the 54 Iowa Workforce Development Centers.

On-line unemployment insurance services are very popular with Iowans. Forty-four percent of all new unemployment insurance claims in May were completed on-line.

The Internet filed claim's success comes at the same time Iowa Workforce Development is closing out the option of applying for unemployment insurance benefits by telephone. This change will save approximately \$100,000 per year in public funds.

Starting Monday, June 19, 2006, new claims for unemployment insurance will no longer be taken over the telephone, but via the on-line web application or by visiting any Iowa Workforce Development Center. Additionally, applicants may contact any of the 54 offices for answers to general unemployment insurance claim questions.

Over 175,000 notices were sent this past week announcing the transition to persons who filed for unemployment insurance in the past 12 months. Anyone with questions about the new process may call their nearest Iowa Workforce Development Center, or post their question at uicclaimshelp@iwd.state.ia.us.

To file online, applicants will need their employer's name, address and phone number; their dates of employment; and basic personal information such as contact information, social security number and educational background. In the "online services" drop-down box on www.iowaworkforce.org, select "file an unemployment insurance claim", and follow the directions.

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Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.
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