



FEMA

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News Release

Disaster Unemployment Assistance Available to Hurricane Zeta Survivors

BATON ROUGE, La. – Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is now available to certain workers in Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and Terrebonne parishes who lost income as a direct result of Hurricane Zeta. The purpose of DUA is to help workers whose primary incomes are lost or interrupted by a federally declared disaster. DUA may be available if the disaster affected your employment – even if you’re self-employed, a farmer or a farm worker – and you fall under one of the following categories:

- Your workplace was damaged or destroyed by the disaster.
- Transportation to work was unavailable as a direct result of the disaster.
- You could not get to your job because you had to travel through the disaster area.
- The disaster prevented you from starting a new job.
- Your business suffered because you relied on the disaster area for most of its income
- You cannot work due to an injury caused as a direct result of the major disaster
- You became the breadwinner or major household support because the head of your household died as a direct result of the disaster.
- You became unemployed as a direct result of the disaster.

Applicants in these parishes must apply for disaster unemployment assistance by Feb. 12.

Affected workers must first apply for regular unemployment insurance prior to starting a DUA application. Apply by visiting www.laworks.net, the Helping Individuals Reach Employment portal.

Claimants may also file by telephone by calling the Benefits Analysis Team at 866-783-5567 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. from Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

For the latest information on Hurricane Zeta, visit <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4577>. Follow the FEMA Region 6 Twitter account at twitter.com/FEMARegion6.

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FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 833-285-7448 (TTY 800-462-7585). Those who use a relay service such as a videophone, InnoCaption or CapTel should update FEMA with their specific number assigned to that service. Multilingual operators are available (press 2 for Spanish).