

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY SYSTEM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR Washington, D.C. 20210	CLASSIFICATION Unemployment Insurance
	CORRESPONDENCE SYMBOL OUI/DUIO
	DATE September 30 2026

ADVISORY: UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM LETTER NO. 16-26

TO: STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES

FROM: MAREK LACO /s/
Acting Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Minimum Disaster Unemployment Assistance Weekly Benefit Amount:
October 1 – December 31, 2026

1. **Purpose.** To transmit the subject computation for State Workforce Agency usage in computing minimum weekly Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) amounts for all major disasters declared from October 1 – December 31, 2026 (first quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2027).
2. **Action Requested.** The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) requests that State Workforce Agency Administrators provide this information to appropriate staff and ensure their state uses the correct Average Weekly Benefit Amount (AWBA) in determining the minimum weekly DUA benefit amount.
3. **Summary and Background.**
 - a. Summary – If an individual’s DUA weekly benefit amount is less than 50 percent of the state’s AWBA for unemployment compensation (UC) or if the individual has insufficient wages from employment or insufficient or no net income from self-employment to establish a DUA weekly benefit amount, the state shall determine the minimum DUA weekly amount to equal 50 percent of the AWBA of UC in the state.
 - b. Background – The Department is required to publish information on each state’s minimum DUA weekly benefit amount quarterly (see 20 CFR 625.6(b)).
4. **Minimum Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) Weekly Benefit Amount.**

The attached listing sets forth the minimum DUA weekly benefit amount for each state applicable for major disasters declared during the first quarter of FY 2027, from October 1 – December 31, 2026, and the computation used to determine this amount.

The amount for each state represents 50 percent of the average weekly payment of UI benefits in the state. This is calculated with data from the ETA 5159, *Claims and Payment*

RESCISSIONS None	EXPIRATION DATE Continuing
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Activities, report using cells c46 (total benefits paid) and divided by c39 (number of weeks compensated).

5. **Inquiries.** Please direct inquiries to the appropriate ETA Regional Office.

6. **References.**

- 20 C.F.R. Part 625; and
- Employment and Training (ET) Handbook 356, Chapter IV-3.

7. **Attachment(s).**

- Attachment I: Minimum Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) Weekly Benefit Amount: October 1 – December 31, 2026.