

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

No.: 15-16

Date: May 18, 2015

**Californian's eligible for State Disability benefits can now certify for benefits and obtain information on their mobile devices**

**SACRAMENTO** – More than a million Californians eligible for State Disability benefits now have a fast, convenient and secure way to access vital State Disability Insurance (SDI) services – no matter where they are – with the launch of the new SDI Online Mobile service by the California Employment Development Department (EDD).



“The EDD has always been committed to improving our customers’ access to the vital services that we provide,” said Patrick W. Henning, Jr. “Now Californians who are unable to work because of a non-work-related illness or injury, or pregnancy, can use their smartphones and tablets to quickly access a wide range of disability benefit services and claim information.”

The SDI program has offered customers online access to services since 2012. SDI Online Mobile now expands that fast, easy and convenient access to customers who use mobile devices, and is available for use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This means less time on the phone for customers, as well as immediate electronic confirmation of forms submitted by customers to EDD. Claimants will find it similar to other mobile applications, with the on-screen format adjusted to the specific phone or tablet they are using.

By using SDI Online Mobile, claimants can now:

- File and certify for continued disability benefits, after first initiating a Disability Insurance claim with the required supporting documents on the full SDI Online site.
- Get a quick snapshot of their disability claim summary including the last payment made, weekly benefit amount, and current claim balance.
- View messages and notifications from SDI.

(more)

Almost 40 percent of claimants file their continued benefits claim form electronically online now, and that number is expected to grow with the addition of SDI Online Mobile.

For EDD, making disability benefit services available in a mobile format means:

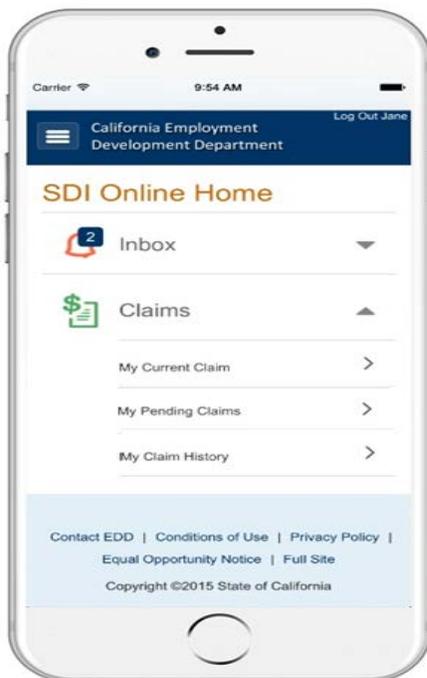
- less paperwork which can slow the claims process,
- more time to assist customers with more complicated claims,
- a decrease in paper and postage costs,
- security safeguards to detect and deter fraud and abuse, and
- cutting costs and staff time associated with processing paper claims.

The Disability Insurance program provides an average of more than \$4 billion annually in benefits to eligible California workers who suffer a loss of wages when they are unable to work due to a non-work-related illness, injury, or pregnancy. The program averages one million new claims and five million continued claims each year. A payroll tax on workers' wages finances the program.

SDI Online Mobile is another significant addition to EDD's suite of state-of-the-art, self-service mobile options that began with CalJOBS<sup>SM</sup> Mobile. CalJOBS<sup>SM</sup> Mobile provides a new and convenient way to access the Department's online job search system.

For more information on SDI Online Mobile, please see:

[http://www.edd.ca.gov/Disability/SDI\\_Online.htm](http://www.edd.ca.gov/Disability/SDI_Online.htm)



SDI Online Mobile

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