Employment Development Department Releases Improved Unemployment Benefits Data Dashboard

SACRAMENTO -- The Employment Development Department today released an expanded online dashboard containing data about unemployment claims and payments, call center activity, and related data.

"We are committed to delivering unemployment benefits to eligible Californians as quickly as possible and transparently reporting this information to the public," said Rita Saenz. "This dashboard generally shows information about the historic volume of unemployment claims and benefits paid since the start of the pandemic."

The Department also announced that it is moving even faster than previously announced to help people with Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims. Those with exhausted PUA claims will now be able to certify for benefits by Sunday, March 28, 2021—faster than the previous Department target of April 10, 2021. Ninety five percent of the 1.2 million existing and exhausted PUA claimants are already able to certify to obtain benefits.

Some of the highlights from this dashboard include:

- Compliance with the State Auditor's recommendation to clearly indicate the backlog of claims that have waited longer than 21 days because EDD has yet to resolve pending work on the claim, as opposed to pending action required by a claimant. The Department’s backlog of claims is approximately 152,000.
- The Department has paid an average of 9.7 million claims a week since February 2021.
- The Department has paid approximately $19.5 billion in benefits since January 2021.

EDD has a repository of data and statistics, including data on various programs such as unemployment insurance, disability/paid family leave insurance, job services, labor market information, and payroll taxes on the Quick Statistics Page.

The new Unemployment Benefits Data dashboard is available here.

EDD continues to take action to share important and rapidly changing information about unemployment insurance and the many federal unemployment benefits programs that have launched during this pandemic:

- Helpful information posts on the COVID-19 page, including Frequently Asked Questions for both claimants and employers.
The Benefit Year End page has a new guide, “Your Claim Type,” to help people determine exactly what type of benefits they are receiving and what will happen next during the transition to the American Rescue Plan.

A new “Understanding the Certification Questions” guide and video on how to certify for benefits every two weeks is available on the Certify for Unemployment Insurance Benefits page.

Updates on implementation of the American Rescue Plan post on the Federal Provisions for Unemployment Page, including a chart of Federal Unemployment Benefits available during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

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