

Unemployment Compensation Seminars

The Office of Unemployment Compensation (UC) Benefits Policy the Office of UC Service Centers, the Office of UC Tax Services and the UC Board of Review provide UC seminars to organizations throughout the state free of charge. To schedule a UC speaker, send an email to RA-LI-SpeakersBureau@pa.gov or call 717-214-1175.

Unemployment Compensation 101

If you are a new employer or have an employee responsible for handling UC's requests for information, then this seminar is for you. We will give an overview of the claims filing process, the determination process and appeal rights. We will show you the forms that an employer may receive when a claim is opened, how they are used to determine the claimant's eligibility and to protect the employer's liability, discuss the specific time frame to respond to these forms and the importance of responding timely.

Separation Issues

Many employers and claimants have difficulty understanding the process UC uses to determine an employee's eligibility for benefits after voluntarily leaving or being discharged from a job. This presentation explains how the service center discovers the person quit or was discharged, the fact-finding process, burden of proof, the factors that are considered when making a determination, and appeal rights.

Relief from Charges

Employers are concerned about controlling their UC costs. One of the ways to control these costs is to file for relief from charges. This presentation explains what is relief from charges, which employers are eligible to file for it, how the employers are notified that their account may be charged, how to file for relief from charges, how separation issues affect the employer's eligibility for relief, and appeal rights.

Suitable Work

The UC Service Center is often contacted about what to do when a person refuses work. This presentation explains the application of Section 402(a) of the PA UC Law (Refusal of Suitable Work). Discussion includes the employer's responsibilities regarding notification that a job offer has been made to both the Claimant and the service center, the factors used in suitable work determinations and appeal rights.

Overpayments

This presentation explains how the UC system prevents, detects, and recovers UC overpayments and the employer's involvement in the overpayment process.

Law Changes

Act 6 enacted in 2011, Act 60 enacted in 2012, and Act 75 enacted in 2013 made major changes to the PA UC Law. This presentation explains these changes and their effect on claimants and employers.

SIDES

Recent changes to the PA UC Law require employers to provide the service center with timely and accurate separation information. We will explain how State Information Data Exchange System (SIDES) can help the employer meet this requirement and how to apply for this free service.

UC Appeals/Hearings

This presentation discusses the UC appeal process, how to prepare for a hearing, and includes a mock UC hearing. It is encouraged that this presentation be scheduled after the presentation on separation issues as most appeals involve separations.

Independent Contractor vs. Employee

This seminar explains the difference between an employee and an independent contractor, what conditions must be met to be considered an independent contractor, who must meet the burden of proof and how the issuance of Form UC-1099-MISC affects independent contractor status.

Registration of Employers

This seminar explains to employers when a business needs to be registered for UC tax purposes, how to register the business, the differences between contributory and reimbursable employers and what wages are exempt for UC taxes.

Unemployment Compensation Tax Rates

This seminar explains the tax rate, the annual tax rate notice the employer receives, how the acquisition or the sale of a business affects the tax rate and what to do if the employer disagrees with the tax rate.

Employer UC Tax Rights and Responsibilities

This seminar will show employers how to file their quarterly reports and pay their contributions, the use of a payroll service or CPA to file reports, how to make changes to their accounts, information must be reported for each employee when filing a quarterly report, and records the employers need to maintain.

Preparing for a UC Tax Audit

This seminar will help make the auditing process easier by explaining the audit selection process, what records must be kept and what records will be reviewed, the amount of time an audit can take and what happens when the audit is completed.