

Congressman Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Working hard for the People of Guam



FAQ

**The Coronavirus Aid, Relief,
& Economic Security Act,
“CARES Act,” (H.R. 748)**

Understanding the Unemployment Assistance Program

- Q** What if my hours have been reduced? Can I get unemployment insurance payments?
Yes, the CARES Act provides for those who are “partial unemployed.” You will get partial benefits relative to your hours lost.
- Q** Will I have to pay taxes on my weekly PUA benefits?
Yes, unemployment benefits are counted as unearned income for tax purposes. The additional \$600 in weekly unemployment insurance payments provided by the CARES Act will count toward eligibility for means-tested benefits (other than Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program).
- Q** How long can I be on the PUA program and continue to receive benefits?
Per the CARES Act, the PUA program for Guam will last through the end of 2020. The additional \$600 per week in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation offered to the unemployed nationwide will only be available through July 30, 2020.
- Q** When and where can I apply?
Because Guam does not have an unemployment insurance system, PUA regulations and administration guidelines must be created. Currently, the U.S. Department of Labor is establishing the procedures for the Guam Department of Labor to administer. Once this process is completed, over the next few days, the Guam Department of Labor will be announcing information on the application process.



**For further inquiries please contact our office at
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DISCLAIMER: This document is intended to provide preliminary guidance based on Congressional intent and does not constitute legal advice. It also does not replace official implementation guidance from the relevant territory and federal agencies.