

## Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) Overview

The federal Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) program provides benefits to individuals whose employment or self-employment was lost/interrupted due to a disaster (that results in a Presidential major disaster declaration).

When DUA is available in Maryland, it will be announced on [MDunemployment.com](https://mdunemployment.com). Apply for DUA within 60 days of this announcement.

### Eligibility Requirements and Benefit Payments

If eligible, you may receive up to 26 weeks of DUA. In Maryland, the maximum DUA weekly benefit amount (WBA) is \$430. The minimum is half of the state's average WBA (for 2024, the Maryland average was \$383. The minimum may change).

You may be eligible for DUA if you:

- lived, worked/were scheduled to work in the disaster area (at the time of the disaster); and,
- as a direct result of the disaster, either:

have been unemployed for at least one week (since the disaster began);

are unable to reach your place of employment;

were scheduled to start work and the job no longer exists;

became the major financial supporter because the head of the household died (as a direct result of the disaster);

cannot work because of an injury (caused as a direct result of the disaster).

For more, see:

- [Guide to DUA](#): online at [MDunemployment.com](https://mdunemployment.com)
- FEMA Assistance After a Disaster: [fema.gov/assistance/individual#](https://fema.gov/assistance/individual#)