



LEGAL SERVICES OF GREATER MIAMI, INC.

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PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

If you have been working full-time and your work hours have been reduced substantially, you may be eligible for partial unemployment benefits. While there is no clear definition of "substantially reduced," a 25% reduction in work hours is generally considered a substantial reduction.

You may also be eligible for partial unemployment benefits if you were laid off or discharged from full-time employment and have since accepted part-time employment. If you apply for partial unemployment, you must be ready and willing to accept a job that will enable you to work full-time. This means that while you are receiving unemployment benefits, you must agree to look for and accept work that would provide full-time hours. It is important that you report the gross income you are earning when filing your weekly claims so that your benefits are adjusted properly. Failure to accurately report your part-time earnings will cause an overpayment of benefits and could lead to the Agency issuing a fraud determination resulting in disqualification from receiving benefits and possible criminal penalties.

OTHER IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

*You must have been employed for a certain amount of time before you are eligible for unemployment benefits.

*If you have been court-ordered to pay child support, the Department of Revenue could intercept your benefits and apply them to the payment of your support.

*Unemployment benefits are taxable income.

*If you quit your part-time employment to accept full-time employment, you will need to show that your earnings from the full-time or subsequent employment are at least 17 times the weekly amount of UC benefits you were eligible to receive in order to requalify for UC benefits.

YOUR WAGE TRANSCRIPT

If you decide to file for unemployment, you will receive a Wage Transcript and Determination notice within 7 to 14 days. If you are eligible for benefits, the Wage Transcript will show you your maximum benefit amount. If you disagree with any information on the Wage Transcript, you have 20 days from the date of the Wage Transcript notice to appeal. You can call Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. (LSGMI) for assistance.

WHERE TO OBTAIN AN UNEMPLOYMENT APPLICATION AND LEARN MORE

For more information on unemployment benefits and to pick up an Unemployment Compensation application, visit the One-Stop Career Center nearest you. At the One-Stop Center, ask for a booklet called *Florida's Unemployment Compensation Claims Services*. This booklet can also be accessed by going to <http://www.floridajobs.org/unemployment/claimsservices/default.htm>, or you may contact a LSGMI office for a copy.

The easiest and most efficient way to file an Unemployment Claim is on the Internet. You can do this by going to <http://www.myflorida.com>. It will take 30 minutes to an hour to complete the Internet claim.