

TERMINATED? – HOW AND WHEN TO APPLY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IS NOT A “HANDOUT.” Part of the taxes deducted from your paycheck pay for the state’s unemployment insurance program. You paid in – you’re entitled to get something back.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT:

- ❖ **Probationary teachers** who were terminated by Board action (*i.e.* you didn’t resign) but not terminated for specific reasons of “misconduct”
- ❖ **Teachers hired on 12-month** or less contract terminating at the end of school
- ❖ **Long-term substitutes** with assignments ending at the end of the school year are probably eligible
- ❖ **Adult school teachers** who are part-time or full-time teachers who have no other ongoing employment are also eligible.

Note: if you have been offered and/or accepted a summer school position, you will not be eligible until the end of the summer school session.

WHEN TO APPLY: Submit your application ASAP following the last week of school. **Most of you will be getting July or August paychecks – however, those are deferred pay checks from your September through July pay, and don’t count.**

WHY TO FILE IMMEDIATELY? There is an automatic one-week waiting period between when you file a claim and when you can start receiving benefits. The amount of your weekly benefit is calculated based on your preceding year’s wages. You want to include your full year’s salary as a teacher in the calculation.

HOW TO FILE A CLAIM: You can file a claim with the Employment Development Department in three ways:

- ❖ **TELEPHONE:** 1-800-300-5616
- ❖ **INTERNET:** www.edd.ca.gov
- ❖ **AT AN EDD OFFICE:**
 - **SALINAS:**
730 LaGuardia (near airport)
Tel: 796-3635 Fax: 796-3650
 - **MONTEREY:**
480 Webster Street
Tel: 649-2925 Fax: 649-2828
 - **SANTA CRUZ:**
2045 40th Ave., Capitola
Tel: 464-6260 Fax: 475-1557

WHAT TO EXPECT: Expect the EDD office to verify the status of your termination with the Monterey County Office of Education. Depending on your base earnings, you are eligible for 12 to 26 weeks of unemployment benefits during a given year. While receiving benefits you are obliged to register with the EDD job base, actively seek work, and report weekly on your job finding progress.

PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS: Call the SVFT office. The local CFT rep has a great deal of experience with unemployment claims