UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FLEXIBILITIES

NOTE: Check with your state’s unemployment insurance program regarding the rules in your state. The link below provides redirects to state-specific details.

The Employment and Training Administration announced new guidance outlining state flexibilities in administering their unemployment insurance programs to assist Americans affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.
https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20200312-0

Under the guidance, federal law permits significant flexibility for states to amend their laws to provide unemployment insurance benefits in multiple scenarios related to COVID-19. For example, federal law allows states to pay benefits where:

- An employer temporarily ceases operations due to COVID-19, preventing employees from coming to work;

- An individual is quarantined with the expectation of returning to work after the quarantine is over; and

- An individual leaves employment due to a risk of exposure or infection or to care for a family member.

In addition, federal law does not require an employee to quit in order to receive benefits due to the impact of COVID-19.