



LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA LOCAL 341

2501 Commercial Drive, Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone (907) 341-0341 Fax (907) 341-0342
www.local341.com



April 2, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

First, I want to thank our health care and service workers who are on the front lines combatting the COVID-19 epidemic. Some Alaskans are able to work from home, but our nurses, CNAs, and many other health care workers face significant risk of infection and keep showing up to work because their work saves lives. We cannot thank them enough.

The purpose of this update is to inform you about recent federal and state reforms. Both Congress and the State Legislature have passed sweeping COVID-19 relief packages. Along with decisions by the courts and utilities, this legislation substantially expands Unemployment Insurance eligibility, provides federal cash payments to families, expands small business loans and grants, and puts a moratorium on foreclosures, evictions, and utility shutoffs.

Unemployment Insurance:

- Nearly all employees, independent contractors, and self-employed workers are eligible to collect traditional unemployment and an extra \$600 per week in “Federal Additional Compensation.”
- Apply at myalaska.gov or call the Anchorage UI Claim Center at (907) 269-4700.
- Note that you can collect these benefits proportional to lost work hours—you don’t have to be laid off or furloughed to receive benefits if your hours have been cut.

Emergency Paid Sick & Family Leave:

- Applies to most private employers with fewer than 500 employees, from April 1 – December 31, 2020.
- Emergency paid sick leave provides either:
 - Two weeks (80 hours max) of paid sick leave at the employee’s regular pay (up to \$511/day or max of \$5,110) when the employee is unable to work because he/she is
 - Quarantined (federal, state, local government order or advice of health care provider) and/or
 - Experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and seeking medical diagnosis
 - OR***
 - Two weeks (80 hours max) at up to \$200/day or \$2,000 total because the employee is unable to work because of
 - a need to care for individual subject to quarantine (federal, state, local government order or advice of health care provider); or
 - a need to care for a child whose school or child care provider is closed/unavailable based on the COVID-19 public health emergency; and/or
 - the employee is experiencing a substantially similar condition as defined by Secretary of HHS in consultation with Labor and Treasury

JOEY MERRICK
BUSINESS MANAGER
SECRETARY-TREASURER

LARRY MOONEY
PRESIDENT

PETE DAHL
BUSINESS AGENT

SERGIO ACUÑA
BUSINESS AGENT

BRANDON CALCATERRA
BUSINESS AGENT

WES CANFIELD
BUSINESS AGENT

LYNDA MCCARTY, RN
HEALTHCARE
REPRESENTATIVE



LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA LOCAL 341

2501 Commercial Drive, Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone (907) 341-0341 Fax (907) 341-0342
www.local341.com



- Emergency *family leave* is available for a longer period at 2/3 your rate of pay but only in limited circumstances when a parent needs to care for a child.
- Paid Leave Exclusions: An employer can deny either kind of leave to employees who are health care providers or first responders. Also, the U.S. Secretary of Labor can issue regulations excluding these workers from eligibility and businesses with fewer than 50 employees.

Cash Relief:

- Individuals with less than \$75,000 taxable earnings (or \$150,000 joint filers) will receive \$1,200 per person payments assuming they either file federal taxes or Social Security.
- Families with children also receive \$500 per eligible child.
- Payments scale down for individual income between \$75,000 and \$100,000 per year (individuals) and are ineligible above that.

Other Economic Relief:

- Emergency legislation passed by the state prohibits foreclosure, eviction, or utility cut-offs related to COVID-19 through June 30. These regulations do not prevent landlords from evicting squatters, drug dealers, etc.
- Federal taxes are not due until July 15.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call the Hall at 341-0341 or Organizer Zack Fields at (907) 201-2895.

In solidarity,

A.J. "Joey" Merrick II
Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Laborers' Local 341