# **12 for Life Students**Unemployment Information



During this time, Southwire's 12 for Life program is on a temporary furlough due to the effects of COVID-19. **Southwire will file for unemployment on the students' behalf.** 



You *DO NOT* have to file an unemployment insurance (UI) claim. We will do that for you.



You **ARE NOT** required to search for work, report to a career center or register for Employment Services.



You WILL receive a letter in the mail containing your PIN from the Georgia Department of Labor. Once you get a PIN, go to dol.georgia.gov.

- Select "Claim Weekly UI Benefits Payments" to establish a new PIN.
- Enter your Social Security Number.
- Leave the field labeled "If you have already set up a PIN, enter it here" blank.
- Enter a 4-digit PIN of your choice in the field labeled "If you need to set up a PIN, enter it here."
- Re-enter your 4-digit PIN in the field labeled "Reenter for verification."
- Click on the Submit button.

You can elect to have state and/or federal taxes withheld by GDOL. You also have the option of using direct deposit or the Georgia UI Way2Go Debit MasterCard®. A PIN is required. You will receive a letter in the mail containing your PIN.

### **Unemployment Eligibility Requirements Regarding Past Earnings**

In Georgia, as in most states, the "base period" is considered the earliest four of the five completed calendar quarters before you filed your benefits claim. During the base period, you must meet all of the following requirements to be eligible for unemployment:

- 1. You must have earned wages in at least two quarters during your base period.
- 2. Earned at least \$1,134 in wages during the two quarters with the highest wages.
- 3. Total wages must be at least 1.5 times the wages earned in the highest quarter.

Please note that the DOL determines eligibility. This decision is not made by Southwire.

### Carrollton Department of Labor William Futrell

Phone: 770-836-6688 Fax: 770-836-6770 TTY/TTD: 770-836-6775 Click Here to Contact the GDOL **New Filing Information** 

Click Here for the Latest Filing Details

Unemployment FAQs Click Here for a List of Helpful FAQs



# **12 for Life Students**Frequently Asked Questions



#### You may have heard about an additional benefit known as the CARES Act. What is it?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act *broadens* eligibility for unemployment benefits and *increases* those benefits. The CARES Act broadens eligibility for unemployment benefits by providing for up to 39 weeks of unemployment benefit assistance for certain "covered individuals," who are unemployed or partially unemployed as a result of COVID-19. The Act extends eligibility for COVID-19-related benefits to individuals who otherwise would not be eligible for regular unemployment compensation. This includes expanding eligibility to include independent contractors, self-employed individuals and those with a limited work history. The Act also provides benefits for individuals who have exhausted all regular unemployment compensation or extended benefits under state and federal law or under the Act.

To obtain unemployment benefits related to COVID-19 under the Act, individuals must self-certify that they are able and available to work within the meaning of applicable state law and are unemployed, partially unemployed or are unable or unavailable to work because of one or more of the following:

- They have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing symptoms and seeking a medical diagnosis.
- A member of their household has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or they are providing care for a family member or household member who has been diagnosed.
- A child or other member of the household for which the individual has primary care-giving responsibility is without care or out of school as a direct result of COVID-19.
- They are unable to reach their place of work due to a quarantine order (by a healthcare provider or otherwise).
- They were scheduled to begin their employment and either cannot reach the job or do not have a job as a direct result of COVID-19.
- They had to quit a job as a direct result of COVID-19.
- They have become the major support for a household because the head of the household died as a direct result of COVID-19.
- Their place of employment is closed as a direct result of COVID-19.

The Act also increases unemployment benefit amounts and further incentivizes states to adopt or expand certain programs to assist affected workers.

Individuals who receive unemployment compensation under the employment compensation law in the state where the individual was employed will also receive an additional \$600 per week on top of ordinary state-authorized weekly benefits. This enhanced benefit is available only until July 31, 2020. Further, the federal government will fund up to an additional 13 weeks of pandemic emergency unemployment compensation for individuals who remain unemployed after they have exhausted their benefits under state law, up to a maximum of 39 weeks of unemployment compensation to such individuals.

### **12 for Life Students**Frequently Asked Questions



#### What do I do if I've already applied for unemployment benefits?

You do not need to reapply for unemployment benefits if you have already applied. If you were denied, you may be eligible for unemployment benefits under the CARES Act and should contact your state's Department of Labor.

#### Who can I contact if I need information or assistance regarding my claim?

We encourage you to use the contact details on page one of this document to reach out to your state's Department of Labor. However, if you wish to speak to someone at Southwire, please contact your HR representative. For students in Georgia, please contact Danielle Pruitt (770-832-5778) or Nichole Martin (770-832-4241). For students in Alabama, please contact Melissa Self (256-768-7806) or Amanda Berry (256-768-7798).

#### If I have a school-related question, can I contact my local school system?

Of course. Students in Georgia may contact Joel Grubbs, 12 for Life Supervisor, at 404-791-0350 or via email at <u>joel.grubbs@carrollcountyschools.com</u>. Students in Alabama may contact Dr. Corey Behel, Director of Partnerships at 12 for Life, by calling 256-710-2012 or emailing <u>cjbehel@florencek12.org</u>.

