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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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### **Unemployment Maximum Benefit to Increase Jan. 1**

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development announces a higher weekly benefit amount for unemployed workers that file a new claim effective on or after Jan. 1.

The increase in the weekly benefit amount raises the maximum from \$248 per week to \$370. The increase in the weekly benefit amount will affect qualified base period wages of \$26,750 or higher.

Also beginning Jan. 1, the qualifying amount for unemployment insurance benefits increases from \$1,000 to \$2,500 in the base period. A portion of the tax responsibility will shift away from the employer to the employees.

Claimants with existing claims at the time will continue to receive their same weekly benefit amount for the remainder of their benefit year or until they qualify for a new benefit year.

The increase in the unemployment insurance weekly benefit amount will further the goal of assisting unemployed workers during times of temporary unemployment and help stabilize local economies during times of economic down turn.

Individuals are encouraged to file a claim online at <https://myalaska.state.ak.us/home/app>.

#### **Unemployment Insurance Claim Centers**

- Anchorage 907-269-4700
- Fairbanks 907-451-2871
- Juneau 907-465-5552
- All other areas 888-252-2557

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