



CALCULATING PUA FOR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS THE CARES ACT QUICK TAKES

- The Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Weekly Benefit is calculated as set forth in 20 C.F.R. 625.6 and is increased by the \$600 Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) payment for the eligible period of March 29 – July 31.
- 20 C.F.R. 625.6(a)(2) states that “The self-employment income to be treated as wages for the purposes of computing the weekly amount ... shall be the **net income** reported on the tax return of the individual as income from all self-employment...”
 - Example: Claimant has \$40,000 net income. Divide \$40,000 by 2080 (work hours in a year) = \$19.23 hourly rate. $\$19.23 \times 40$ hours for a work week = **\$769.20 per week**. This amount may be limited by a **maximum** established by the state. FPUC amount of **\$600** would automatically be added for March 29-July 31.
- If the individual has **no net income** from self-employment, they are entitled to a weekly amount equal to **50% of the average** weekly payment of regular compensation in the state.
 - Example: State average is \$250. Claimant would be entitled to **\$125 per week**. FPUC amount of **\$600** would automatically be added for March 29-July 31.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.dol.gov/coronavirus/unemployment-insurance>



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