We have been working with UIA to address your concerns that have been raised. Here is the update that I received with some good news.

- If your claim was denied because you were “in school” (some apprentices have experienced this) you will be deemed eligible very shortly if not already. Your old determination will be cleared and a new redetermination will be made or is in the process of being made. Please keep your eye on your online MiWAM account for correspondence or to check your payment was released. You will also likely receive a letter in the mail, however our mail has been back logged.

- Those who have exhausted their benefits (all 20 weeks) and filed their original claim since March, 15th 2019 (still in your benefit year) need to reopen their claim through their online MiWAM account. Some workers may have been denied because the system was not yet updated and was reading that they had exhausted, they are now eligible for up to 6 additional weeks. Once UIA implements the federal CARES Act they will be eligible for an additional 13 weeks and will receive the $600 weekly benefit assistance.

- Everyone currently receiving UI benefits or soon to be during this crisis is allowed the 13 additional weeks (total of 39) and $600 weekly on top of what they otherwise are owed as soon as the UIA is able to implement the federal CARES program. The 13 additional weeks are available until Dec. 31, 2020. The $600 weekly assistance are available until July 31st, 2020. The $600 will be automatically applied to your benefits, no further action is needed. Continue to certify as usual.

The Agency is awaiting guidance from the USDOL on the CARES program, we expect the $600 and 13 week additions will be active sometime the week of 4/6. Please check our website or social media pages for updates.

Don’t forget to file your claim by your last name! We will start offering Saturday claim filing by phone THIS Saturday 4/4 from 7am-2pm.