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***Help for Business Owners and Individuals Who Cannot Work due to COVID-19  
Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)***

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Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) is an expansion to California's existing unemployment benefits program in response to the global pandemic crisis.

***Who is Eligible:*** PUA is designed to provide relief to individuals who cannot work due to reasons directly related to COVID-19 but do not qualify for regular Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits, state Disability Insurance, or Paid Family Leave benefits. This includes:

- Business owners
- Self-employed individuals
- Independent contractors (Form 1099)
- Gig-workers
- Anyone who have exhausted their regular UI benefits
- Anyone who does not have sufficient work history (This generally means you do not have enough wages reported as an employee during the last 18 months to establish a regular UI claim.)

***Funding Benefits:*** PUA will provide a range of \$167–\$450 per week depending on the applicant's level of normal income. For 2021, the new coronavirus relief bill also allows for 11 weeks of \$300 payments in addition to the normal benefits.

***Payment Eligibility:*** An individual can request to backdate a claim date to the week they became unemployed due to COVID- 19. If approved, benefits will be back paid based on the last day of work. For new PUA applications received on or after December 27, 2020, the earliest start date for a PUA claim is December 6, 2020.

- ***Deadline to Apply:***  
***The California Employment Development Department began accepting online applications from new applicants on April 28, 2020 and is still accepting applications.***
- ***For more information, go to the CA Employment Development Dept.:***  
***[https://edd.ca.gov/about\\_edd/corona\\_virus-2019/pandemic-unemployment-assistance.htm](https://edd.ca.gov/about_edd/corona_virus-2019/pandemic-unemployment-assistance.htm)***

**Send us Your Success Story!**

**The City of Tracy would love to share your success story related to this funding opportunity. Send your story to [Anne.Bell@cityoftracy.org](mailto:Anne.Bell@cityoftracy.org)**

***This announcement is brought to you by the City of Tracy in an effort to assist its community in recovering from the impacts of COVID-19. We're all in this together!***