

INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYERS REGARDING 2020 1ST QUARTER REPORTS

HAS THE DUE DATE FOR FILING 2020 1ST QUARTER CONTRIBUTION/WAGE REPORTS BEEN EXTENDED?

No. The due date for filing the 1st quarter Contribution/Wage Report is April 30, 2020. The timely filing of wage reports is necessary to determine monetary eligibility for claimants and to preserve the integrity of the unemployment insurance program.

IS MARYLAND OFFERING ANY TAX RELIEF TO EMPLOYERS IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

Yes. Although the due date for filing the 1st quarter Contribution/Wage Report is April 30, 2020, tax payments for the 1st quarter will be considered timely if received by June 1, 2020. Therefore, interest for the 1st quarter of 2020 tax payments will not be charged for lack of payment until after June 1, 2020. If payment is received after June 1st, interest will be charged from May 1st.

IF MY BUSINESS HAS NOT BEEN NEGATIVELY IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, IS THERE ANY REASON WHY I WOULD MAKE MY TAX PAYMENT BY APRIL 30, 2020?

Yes. The health of the Unemployment Trust Fund affects all Maryland employers. While your tax payment will be considered made timely if received by June 1, 2020, tax payments made by the normal due date of April 30, 2020 are greatly appreciated. Also, an employer may prefer the more simplified process of making their tax payment at the same time they file their report.

IF I HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE FILING OF WAGE REPORTS FOR THE 1ST QUARTER OR MAKING TAX PAYMENTS, WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

You may contact our Employer Assistance Unit at dluiemployerassistance-labor@maryland.gov.

OTHER INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYERS RELATED TO COVID-19

IF AN EMPLOYEE OR FORMER EMPLOYEE RECEIVES UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AS A RESULT OF A COVID-19-RELATED BUSINESS FULL OR PARTIAL SHUTDOWN, WILL THE EMPLOYER'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TAX RATE INCREASE IN 2020?

No. A contributory employer will not see an increase in their tax rate for 2020 due to COVID-19-related benefits that may be charged to their unemployment insurance

account. The tax rate for calendar year 2020 for each employer was determined based on a calculation using figures from 2019 and prior.

IF AN EMPLOYEE OR FORMER EMPLOYEE RECEIVES UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AS A RESULT OF A COVID-19-RELATED BUSINESS FULL OR PARTIAL SHUTDOWN, WILL THE EMPLOYER'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TAX RATE INCREASE IN 2021?

Maybe. Unemployment insurance benefits are proportionately charged to each employer based on the employee's earnings in their base period. Contributory employers may see an increase in their 2021 tax rate as a result of benefits paid due to COVID-19; however, tax rates are calculated based on benefits that have been charged to the employer account over the prior three (3) years, ending on June 30. Thus, any benefits paid due to coronavirus, COVID-19, from March to June will comprise four (4) months of the 36 months used to calculate the 2021 tax rate for employers.

In the event that a process for employers to apply for a waiver of charging of any benefits paid due to coronavirus, COVID-19, additional information will be provided outlining the requirements. Waivers will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and approved as the law allows.

WILL THERE BE ANY RELIEF FOR REIMBURSING EMPLOYERS RELATED TO BENEFITS PAID OUT TO AN EMPLOYEE OR FORMER EMPLOYEE AS A RESULT OF A COVID-19-RELATED BUSINESS FULL OR PARTIAL SHUTDOWN?

Yes. Reimbursing employers are normally charged dollar for dollar for benefits paid to their former employees. However, some emergency unemployment relief for governmental entities and nonprofit organizations will be provided under the CARES Act. Maryland is awaiting further guidance from the United States Department of Labor and additional information will be provided to reimbursing employers once this guidance is received.