**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM PROGRESSION UNDER THE CARES ACT**

**STATE UI**

Exhaust regular UI, apply for PEUC by filing a new claim.

**PEUC**

Exhaust PEUC. Apply for PUA by filing a new claim.

**PUA**

Apply for PUA by filing a new claim.

- Regular state Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits are available to individuals who have lost their job or had hours reduced through no fault of their own and are found monetarily eligible.

- Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) becomes available after regular state UI benefits are exhausted.
  - Weekly Benefit Amount based on regular unemployment claim.

- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) is payable for weeks of unemployment, partial unemployment, or inability to work for COVID-19 related reasons.
  - Weekly Benefit Amount is based on 2019 taxes, 1099’s, W-2, or any additional documentation that will verify 2019 earnings.

Federal CARES Act benefit programs are scheduled to end December 26. If new benefits become available, notification will be issued in NEworks.

Self-employed, gig economy workers, independent contractors, and those with insufficient work history. Once verified that they are not eligible for Regular UI, are automatically considered for PUA eligibility.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** None of the benefits described above, nor unemployment benefits of any kind, are available to employees who quit without good cause, refuse to return to work, or refuse to receive full-time pay. Refusing to return to work could result in a disqualification from benefits. Attempts to collect unemployment benefits after quitting a job without good cause may be considered fraud. Employers are able to report refusal of suitable work by emailing ndol.uiworkrefusal@nebraska.gov.

All claims are filed at NEworks.nebraska.gov