**Massachusetts: Unemployment Benefits for Workers Whose Employers Are Impacted by COVID-19**

**Description of Program and Relief**

Workers who are temporarily unemployed due to lack of work because of COVID-19 will be eligible for unemployment benefits on a special standby status. The worker will be considered unemployed regardless of whether the worker’s workplace is shut down or if the individual needs to stay home for any reason related to COVID-19. Claimants will be presumed to be eligible for four weeks of standby status. This period may be extended by the employer or the Department of Unemployment Assistance.

**Government or Lead Agency**

Department of Unemployment Assistance

**Eligibility Requirements/Restrictions**

Worker needs to take reasonable measures to maintain contact with his or her employer, and be available for hours offered by the employer.

**Application Deadlines (If Applicable)**

Not applicable

**List of Additional Information**

https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-guidance-and-directives#health-care-professionals-&-organizations-


Department of Unemployment Assistance, TeleClaim Center - (617) 626-6800