



# Self-employed and Can't Work Because of a Disaster?



## You may be able to get Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA).

DUA is a federal program that provides temporary payments for people who, as a direct result of a disaster, meet one of the following conditions:

- No longer have the job that provided their primary source of income.
- Are unable to reach their place of unemployment.
- Cannot work because of an injury caused by the storm.
- Were unable to begin employment or self-employment due to the storm.
- Have become the major supplier of household income due to a storm-related death of the previous major supplier of household income.

### Eligibility

During a disaster, self-employed people become eligible for disaster-related unemployment benefits. Proof of employment and income must be provided within 21 days of filing your claim.

Eligibility for DUA is determined weekly. You must continue to be out of work as a direct result of the disaster each week to get unemployment.

### Next Steps

1. File a claim for unemployment. The fastest way is to file online at [des.nc.gov](https://des.nc.gov). You can also file over the phone: DUA Hotline at 919-629-3857 (English) and 919-276-5698 (Spanish).
2. Provide disaster-related information when you file your claim.
3. File your weekly certifications each week while waiting for a determination from DES.

