

Information for railroad unemployment claimants in benefit year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED VIA FAX AS AN ORIGINAL SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED.

Railroad Retirement Board, 233 Cumberland Bend, Suite 104, Nashville TN 37228-1806

Telephone 1-877-772-5772; FAX 615-736-7071 E-mail: nashville@rrb.gov.

RRB HELP LINE NUMBER 1-877-772-5772. Website: WWW.RRB.GOV

BASE YEAR 2007 FOR

Base year January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007

BENEFIT YEAR 2008:

Benefit year, July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

HOW DO I QUALIFY?

By earning \$3075.00 in railroad wages during base year 2007, in at least 3 separate months counting no more than \$1230.00 in any month. If 2007 was the first year you ever worked for a railroad you need 5 months of railroad service in 2007 to qualify in the benefit year beginning July 1, 2008.

WAITING PERIOD:

A "waiting period" of 7 days is required for both unemployment and sickness benefit claims. Claimant should file a claim as soon as possible to fulfill their waiting period.

MAXIMUM DAILY BENEFIT AMOUNT:

\$61 per day or \$610 for a completed 14 day claim. (FIRST FULL CLAIM PAYS \$427.00)

BENEFITS ARE PAYABLE:

Up to 26 weeks (130 paid days) in a benefit year, up to a total of \$7,930.00. but no more than what you had in base year earnings. The 130 paid days apply to both unemployment and to sickness benefits. If you have more than 120 months of railroad service you may receive an additional 13 weeks or 65 days of "Extended" benefits.

EARNINGS & MILEAGE RESTRICTIONS:

If you have total earnings of more than \$1230.00 during a 14 day registration period unemployment benefits are not payable. This includes vacation pay & non-railroad work as well as railroad work. The earnings restriction does not apply to the waiting period. The mileage restriction for train & engine service employees is 1300 miles in a 14 day period.

CLAIMING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS:

You must complete an application and submit it to our office within 30 days. The 14 day claim cards must be received in a Board office within 15 days of the last day on the claim or the date released to you, whichever is later. However, do not mail your claim card before the ending date of the card. Always start your claim with a day of unemployment.

CLAIMING SICKNESS BENEFITS: (on or off the job injury)

Obtain a sickness benefit application from your employer, labor organization or the Railroad Retirement Board. Complete your portion of the application and have your doctor complete his portion. Mail the forms to the Board office in Nashville. You must be off work for at least 4 consecutive days to start a claim for sickness benefits and a total of 5 days during a 14 day registration period.

IF EITHER THE APPLICATION OR CLAIM CARDS WILL BE LATE, PLEASE PROVIDE A STATEMENT IN WRITING EXPLAINING WHY IT IS LATE. IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE A STATEMENT, YOUR BENEFITS WILL BE DENIED.