

Other Tips

The mission of South Carolina Legal Services (SCLS) is to provide legal services to protect the rights and represent the interests of low income South Carolinians.

SCLS provides free legal assistance to eligible, low-income persons in civil matters (we do not provide legal assistance in criminal or traffic matters).

SCLS also provides community education and detailed informational brochures.



Additional information may be found at:

LawHelp.org/SC

South Carolina's guide to free legal resources

We also assist with:

Eviction Defense

Foreclosure Defense

Debt Collection Defense

SNAP Appeals

Medicaid/Medicare Appeals

Social Security Cessation

...and many other types of legal issues.

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South Carolina
BAR FOUNDATION
Lawyers Sustaining Justice



**South Carolina
Legal Services**

Balancing the Scales of Justice

**Affected by the South Carolina Flood?
You may be eligible for...**

DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE



Our Mission

South Carolina Legal Services is a statewide law firm that provides civil legal services to protect the rights and represent the interests of low-income South Carolinians.

For Free Services

1 (888) 346-5592

contactus@sclegal.org

www.sclegal.org / www.lawhelp.org/sc

www.probono.net/sc



Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is a program to help people who have become unemployed as a result of the floods.

FEMA-approved counties are eligible for assistance.

1. I lost my job after the disaster. Am I eligible for DUA?

You may be eligible if...

- You are unemployed due to the disaster and do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits; OR
- You are self-employed or a small business owner who lost income due to the disaster; OR
- You are prevented from working due to an injury caused by the disaster; OR
- You have become the sole supporter of the household due to the disaster-related death or injury of another family member; OR
- You are unable to reach your job or self-employment location because you must travel through the affected area and are prevented from doing so by the disaster; OR
- You were to commence employment or self-employment but were prevented by the disaster.

2. Can I qualify if I am self-employed?

You may be eligible for DUA.

3. What do I need to show to be eligible for DUA benefits?

Be prepared with the following information to assist the processing of your application:

- Your Social Security number (or your Alien Registration number if you are a non-citizen);

- Any check stubs or other proof of earnings for employment you have had within the last 18 months;
- If you are self-employed, your most recent Federal Income Tax returns and/or your profit and loss statement.

4. Are immigrants eligible for DUA?

Yes, if you have valid work papers and are a U.S. citizen, lawful permanent resident (green card holder), refugee, asylee, Cuban/Haitian entrant, parolee for one year or more, conditional entrant, victim of domestic violence, or you have been granted withhold of deportation.

5. How do I apply for DUA?

Apply for DUA by registering at mybenefits.dew.sc.gov. For more information about applying, call the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce at 1-888-834-5890.

6. When should I apply for DUA?

You must file for DUA within 30 days after the disaster, unless the application deadline is extended. **The current deadline to apply is November 6, 2015. Do not delay!**

7. What if I am told I am not eligible for DUA benefits?

You must appeal within ten calendar days of the mailing date listed on the determination. This means that you must file your appeal quickly or you lose your right to appeal. Follow the instructions on the notice to file the appeal at the local SCWorks office, by mail, or by fax. Keep a copy of your appeal, as well as proof of the date that you sent it, such as a fax confirmation sheet or certified mail receipt. An Appeal Tribunal hearing will be scheduled with a hearing officer acting as the judge. This is your only chance to explain your side of

the story and present evidence. You will need to provide proof that you lost your job due to the disaster. If the hearing is by telephone, you must follow the instructions on the hearing notice and send any evidence to the hearing officer before the hearing. If you disagree with the Appeal Tribunal's decision, you can appeal to the Appellate Panel by following the instructions at the bottom of the decision.

It is very important to be represented by an attorney at this hearing. SCLS may be able to help you.

