SIGNIFICANT PROVISIONS OF STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE LAWS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2017

|  | BENEFITS |  |  |  |  |  |  | COVERAGE | TAXES |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Earnings/ Employment Needed in Base Period to Qualify ${ }^{1}$ | Computation of Weekly Benefit Amount | Weekly Benefit Amount ${ }^{2}$ |  | Weekly Earnings Disregarded ${ }^{3}$ | Calculation of Number of Benefit Weeks ${ }^{4}$ | Number of Benefit Weeks ${ }^{5}$ | Size of Payroll (Length of Employment/ Wages Paid) ${ }^{6}$ | 2017 <br> Wages Subject to Tax | 2016 <br> Minimum \& Maximum Rates ${ }^{7}$ New Employer Rate ${ }^{8}$ |
|  |  |  | Minimum | Maxi- <br> Mum |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| AL | $11 / 2 \times \mathrm{HQW}$; qualify for at least minimum WBA | $1 / 26$ avg of 2 highest qtrs | \$45 | \$265 | 1/3 WBA | Lesser of $1 / 3$ BPW or $26 x$ WBA | 15-26 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$8,000 |  |
| AK | \$2,500; wages in 2 qtrs | 0.9-2.2\% of annual wages + \$24 per dep up to $\$ 72$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 56- \\ & 128 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 370- \\ & 442 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 50 \text { and } 1 / 4 \\ & \text { wages over } \\ & \$ 50 \end{aligned}$ | Weighted schedule of BPW to HQW | 16-26 | Any size | \$39,800 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 1.00 \% \\ & 5.40 \% \\ & 2.10 \% \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| AZ | $11 / 2 \times$ HQW and $390 \times$ minimum wage in effect in 1 qtr; or wages in 2 qtrs with wages in 1 qtr sufficient to qualify for maximum WBA and total BPW $\geq$ taxable wage base | 1/25 HQW | \$126 | \$240 | \$30 | Lesser of $1 / 3$ BPW or $26 x$ WBA | 13-26 | 20 weeks or \$1,500 in any qtr | \$7,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.03 \% \\ & 8.91 \% \\ & 2.00 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| AR | $35 \times$ WBA; wages in 2 qtrs | $1 / 26$ of the avg of the 4 qtrs in BP | \$81 | \$451 | 40\% WBA | Lesser of 20 $x$ WBA or $1 / 3$ BPW | 9-20 | One employee for 10 or more days in a CY | \$12,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.10 \% \\ & 6.00 \% \\ & 2.90 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| CA | $\$ 1,300$ in HQ, or $\$ 900$ in HQ with $\mathrm{BPW}=1 \frac{1}{4} \times \mathrm{HQ}$ | 1/23 to 1/26 HQW | \$40 | \$450 | Greater of $\$ 25$ or 1/4 wages | Lesser of 26 x WBA or $1 / 2$ BPW | 14-26 | Over \$100 in any qtr | \$7,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 1.50 \% \\ & 6.20 \% \\ & 3.40 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| CO | $40 \times$ WBA or \$2,500, whichever is greater | Higher of $60 \%$ of 1/26 of 2 consecutive HQW, capped by $50 \%$ of State avg weekly earnings or $50 \%$ of $1 / 52$ BP earnings capped by $55 \%$ of State avg weekly earnings | \$25 | \$516 or <br> \$568 | $1 / 4$ WBA | Lesser of 26 $x$ WBA or $1 / 3$ BPW | 13-26 | 20 weeks or \$1,500 in any qtr | \$12,500 |  |
| CT | $40 \times$ WBA | $1 / 26$ avg of 2 highest qtrs + \$15 per dep, up to 5; DA capped at WBA (For construction workers, 1/26 HQ) | \$15-30 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { \$616- } \\ & 691 \end{aligned}$ | 1/3 wages | Uniform duration | 26 | 20 weeks or \$1,500 in any qtr | \$15,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 1.90 \% \\ & 6.80 \% \\ & 4.30 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| DE | $36 \times$ WBA | 1/46 total wages in 2 highest qtrs | \$20 | \$330 | Greater of \$10 or 50\% WBA | 112 BPW | 24-26 | 20 weeks or \$1,500 in any qtr | \$18,500 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 0.10 \% \\ & 8.00 \% \\ & 1.90 \% \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| DC | $\begin{aligned} & 11 / 2 \times \text { HQW or } \\ & \text { within } \$ 70 ; \text { not } \\ & \text { less than } \$ 1,950 \\ & \text { in } 2 \text { qtrs; } \$ 1,300 \\ & \text { in } 1 \text { qtr } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 1/26 HQW | \$50 | \$425 | $1 / 3$ of wages plus $\$ 50$ | Uniform duration | 26 | Any size | \$9,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 1.60 \% \\ & 7.00 \% \\ & 2.70 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| FL | $11 / 2 \times \mathrm{HQW}$; minimum $\$ 3,400$; wages in 2 qtrs | 1/26 HQW | \$32 | \$275 | $8 \times$ federal hourly minimum wage | 25\% BPW | 9-12 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$7,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.10 \% \\ & 5.40 \% \\ & 2.70 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| GA | Wages in 2 qtrs \& 150\% x HQW or HQW divided by 21 for WBA w/ total earnings in 2 qtrs totaling at least $40 \times$ WBA | 1/42 of wages in highest 2 qtrs or 1/21 HQW | \$44 | \$330 | \$50 | Lesser of 14 $x$ WBA or $1 / 4$ BPW | 6-14 | 20 weeks or \$1,500 in any qtr | \$9,500 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.025 \% \\ & 5.40 \% \\ & 2.62 \% \end{aligned}$ |


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|  |  |  | Minimum | MaxiMum |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HI | $26 \times$ WBA; wages in 2 qtrs | 1/21 HQW | \$5 | \$592 | \$150 | Uniform duration | 26 | Any size | \$44,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.00 \% \\ & 5.60 \% \\ & 2.40 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| ID | $11 / 4 \times$ HQW; not less than the minimum qualifying wages in 1 qtr $\$ 1,872$ | 1/26 HQW | \$72 | \$410 | 1⁄2 WBA | Weighted schedule of BPW to HQW | 10-26 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$37,800 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.425 \% \\ & 5.40 \% \\ & 1.488 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| IL | \$1,600; \$440 outside HQ | 47\% of claimant's AWW in 2 highest qtrs. | \$51-77 | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 449- \\ & 613 \end{aligned}$ | $1 / 2$ WBA | Uniform duration | 26 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$12,960 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.55 \% \\ & 7.75 \% \\ & 3.55 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| IN | $112 \times$ HQW totaling at least \$2,500 in last 2 qtrs; not less than \$4,200 in BP | 47\% of AWW in BP | \$37 | \$390 | Greater of \$3 or 20\% WBA from other than BP employers | Lesser of 28\% BPW or $26 \times$ WBA | 26 | Any size | \$9,500 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.505 \% \\ & 7.474 \% \\ & 2.50 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| IA | 1144 HQW; 3.5\% of the statewide AAW in HQ; ${ }^{1 / 2}$ HQW in qtr not the HQ | $1 / 23$ HQW or 1/19-1/22 HQW for claimants with deps | \$66-81 | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 447- \\ & 548 \end{aligned}$ | 1/4 WBA | 1/3 BPW | 7-26 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$29,300 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.00 \% \\ & 8.00 \% \\ & 1.00 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| KS | $30 \times$ WBA; wages in 2 qtrs | 4.25\% HQW | \$118 | \$474 | 25\% WBA | Lesser of 26 <br> x WBA or $1 / 3$ BPW | 10-26 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$14,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.20 \% \\ & 7.60 \% \\ & 2.70 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| KY | $11 / 2 \times$ HQW; $8 \times$ WBA in last 2 qtrs; $\$ 750$ outside HQ | 1.1923\% BPW | \$39 | \$415 | 1/5 wages | Lesser of 26 <br> $x$ WBA or $1 / 3$ BPW | 15-26 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$10,200 | $\begin{aligned} & 1.00 \% \\ & 10.00 \% \\ & 2.70 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| LA | \$1,200 total BPW; wages in 2 qtrs; $11 / 2 \times \mathrm{HQW}$ | $1 / 25$ of the avg of wages in 4 qtrs of BP $\times 1.05 \times 1.15$ | \$10 | \$247 | Lesser of $1 / 2$ WBA or \$50 | Uniform duration | 26 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$7,700 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.10 \% \\ & 6.20 \% \\ & \text { InAvg\% } \end{aligned}$ |
| ME | $2 \times$ AWW in 2 different BP qtrs; total BPW $=6 \mathrm{x}$ AWW | $1 / 22$ avg wages paid in 2 highest qtrs of BP $+\$ 10$ per dep up to $1 / 2$ WBA | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 71- \\ & 106 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 410- \\ & 615 \end{aligned}$ | \$25 | Lesser of 26 <br> x WBA or $1 / 3$ BPW | 15-26 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$12,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.57 \% \\ & 5.40 \% \\ & 2.04 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| MD | 112 $\times$ HQW; \$1,176.01 in HQ; $\$ 1,800$ in 2 qtrs | 1/24 HQW + \$8 per dep up to 5 deps | \$50-90 | \$430 | $\leq \$ 50$ | Uniform duration | 26 | Any size | \$8,500 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.30 \% \\ & 7.50 \% \\ & 2.60 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| MA | $30 \times$ WBA; <br> $\$ 3,900$ minimum | 50\% AWW + \$25 per dep up to $1 / 2$ WBA | \$37-55 | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 742- \\ & 1,103 \end{aligned}$ | 1/3 WBA | Lesser of 30 x WBA or $36 \%$ BPW | 10-30 | 13 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$15,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.73 \% \\ & 11.13 \% \\ & 1.87 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| MI | Total BPW $=11 / 2 x$ HQW; wages in at least 2 BP qtrs; at least $\$ 3,453$ in HQ; or wages in at least 2 BP qtrs; BPW at least 20 x State AWW (\$965.62) or \$19,312.40 | 4.1\% HQW + \$6 for each dep up to 5 | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 141- \\ & 171 \end{aligned}$ | \$362 | WBA reduced by 50¢ for every \$1 earned, and wages plus benefits cannot exceed 1.5 x WBR | $\begin{aligned} & 43 \% \text { BP } \\ & \text { wages } \end{aligned}$ | 14-20 | $\begin{aligned} & 20 \text { weeks or } \\ & \$ 1,000 \text { in } \mathrm{CY} \end{aligned}$ | \$9,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.06 \% \\ & 10.30 \% \\ & 2.70 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| MN | $5.3 \%$ of State AAW | Higher of $50 \%$ of 1/13 HQW up to $43 \%$ of State AWW or $50 \%$ of $1 / 52$ BPW up to 66²⁄3\% of State AWW | \$26 | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 440- \\ & 683 \end{aligned}$ | WBA reduced by 50¢ for every $\$ 1$ earned | Lesser of $1 / 3$ BPW or 26 x WBA | 11-26 | Any size | \$32,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.10 \% \\ & 9.00 \% \\ & 1.59 \% \end{aligned}$ |
| MS | $40 \times$ WBA; $\$ 780$ in HQ; wages in 2 qtrs | 1/26 HQW | \$30 | \$235 | \$40 | Lesser of $1 / 3$ BPW or 26 x WBA | 13-26 | 20 weeks or $\$ 1,500$ in any qtr | \$14,000 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.00 \% \\ & 5.40 \% \\ & 1.00 \% \end{aligned}$ |




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|  |  |  | Minimum | MaxiMum |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WY | $1.4 \times \mathrm{HQW}$; at least $8 \%$ of statewide AAW | 4\% HQW | \$33 | \$489 | 50\% WBA | Lesser of 26 $x$ WBA or $30 \%$ BPW | 11-26 | Any size | \$25,400 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.27 \% \\ & 8.77 \% \\ & \text { InAvg\% } \end{aligned}$ |

This document is prepared for general reference and may not reflect all the details of a State's law. Consult the State agency or the State law for authoritative information. More detailed information is in the Comparison of State Unemployment Insurance Laws, which also includes a chapter on Temporary Disability Insurance Programs. Current and earlier publications of both these documents can be found at
http://www.uis.doleta.gov/unemploy/statelaws.asp.
KEY:
$\overline{\text { Avg }}$ - Average
BPW - Base Period Wages
DA - Dependents Allowance
MBA - Maximum Benefit Amount " $\geq$ " - Greater Than or Equal To Qtrs - Quarters

AAW - Average Annual Wage<br>CQ - Calendar Quarter<br>HQ - High Quarter<br>WBA - Weekly Benefit Amount " $\leq$ " - Less Than or Equal To " x " - Times

AWW - Average Weekly Wage
CY- Calendar Year
HQW - High Quarter Wages
"=" - Equal To
"\%" - Percent

BP - Base Period
Dep - Dependent
InAvg - Industry Average
">" - Greater Than
"+" - Plus

OTHER PROVISIONS OF LAW:
Waiting Week - Most States require a 1 -week waiting period where the claimant must meet all eligibility conditions before benefits are payable. The following States do not require a waiting week: CT, DE, GA, IA, MD, MI, NV, NJ, and WY. The waiting week may be paid after a specified period of unemployment in KY, MO, and TN. In TX, to receive payment for the waiting week, the claimant must be unemployed for a specified period of time AND return to full-time work, or exhaust benefits (eff. 9/6/15). In some States, the waiting week may be suspended under certain conditions.

Base Periods - Almost all qualifying earnings are determined using a BP consisting of the first 4 of the last 5 completed CQs. A few States use a different BP. In the following States, more recent earnings may be used in an alternative BP under certain conditions: AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, GA, HI, ID, IL, IA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, PR, RI, SC, SD, UT, VT, VA, VI, WA, WV, and WI.

## FOOTNOTES:

${ }^{1}$ Reflects basic qualifying formula. Some States have alternative qualifying formulas.
${ }^{2}$ When 2 amounts given, higher includes DA; the higher figure for both the min and max WBAs includes DA for the max \# of deps. If State has a DA and only one amount is given, the max is the same with or without the allowance. The total amount of DA payable in any week is limited by a cap. CO and MN do not pay DA. The lower amount is based on HQWs, and the higher amount is based on total BPWs. For NY, if BP HQWs are >\$3,575, WBA will not be $<\$ 143$. For ME, WBA changes on June $1^{\text {st }}$ each year based on prior calendar year's AWW.
${ }^{3}$ This column lists the amount of weekly earnings that are disregarded (will not reduce the WBA). However, earnings in excess of those listed will be deducted from the WBA, resulting in a reduced payment. For MT, only $50 \%$ of wages exceeding the $1 / 4$ WBA threshold will be deducted. For WA, $1 / 2$ of wages over $\$ 5$, if receiving training benefits.
${ }^{4}$ For States that use earnings, further calculation is needed to derive the \# of benefit weeks--take the amount obtained from the formula listed (which is the claimant's MBA) and divide it by the claimant's WBA. States with uniform duration do not have to calculate the \# of benefit weeks since it is fixed. In MO, when calculating the $1 / 3$ BPW, BPW are limited to $26 \times$ WBA for each qtr. In PA, for initial claims eff. on and after $1 / 4 / 15$, a credit week equals $16 \times$ PA Minimum Hourly Wage Act of 1968, or at least \$116, for CY 2017.
${ }^{5}$ Lists \# of benefit weeks for only the regular program for total unemployment. In States with uniform duration, all eligible claimants receive the same \# of benefit weeks (in IL the max amount payable cannot exceed one's BPW, resulting in some claimants being paid less than 26 weeks). For FL the \# of benefit weeks is 12 if the avg UI rate is $\leq 5 \%$ and increases by 1 week for each $1 / 2 \%$ increment in the avg UI rate above $5 \%$. The \# of benefit weeks is limited up to a max of 23 weeks if the avg UI rate is $\geq 10.5 \%$. For GA, max \# of weeks is determined semi-annually using the avg UI rate in April and Oct. When the avg UI rate is $6.5 \%$ or lower, max \# of UI weeks will be 14 and increases by 1 week for each $1 / 2 \%$ increment increase above $6.5 \%$. The max \# of UI weeks cannot be above 20 when the avg UI rate $\geq 9.0 \%$. For ID, the max duration is tied to the Feb, May, Aug, or Nov unemployment rate, based on when the claimant files the claim. The maximum varies from 20 to 26 weeks. For KS, the maximum duration is tied to the State's 3 -month average seasonally adjusted unemployment rate and is either 16, 20, or 26 weeks. When MA is paying extended benefits and/or emergency unemployment compensation, the max \# of weeks of regular benefits is 26 . For NC, the \# of benefit weeks depends on the state unemployment rate. For PA, the \# of benefit weeks (and any max amount of DA), equals the \# of credit weeks from 18 to 26 (and 26 benefit weeks even if more than 26 credit weeks). For WI, with some limited exceptions, individuals with significant ownership interest in family partnerships, LLCs and corporations, and certain of their family members, their benefit entitlement is limited to 10 x the individuals' benefit rate, which typically amounts to 4 weeks of regular UI benefits. In some States, additional weeks of benefits are payable under limited circumstances such as high unemployment, continuation of approved training, or workforce dislocations.
${ }^{6}$ Coverage is determined by the size of the employing unit's payroll or the \# of days or weeks worked during a CY and applies to employing units who, during any $C Q$ in the current or immediately preceding $C Y$, paid wages of $\$ 1,500$ or more, or to employing units who employ one or more workers on at least 1 day in each of 20 weeks during the current or immediately preceding CY; such employing units are liable for taxes, and the workers accrue benefit rights. For those States with "Any size," all workers are covered regardless of payroll size or weeks worked. States may have different thresholds for agricultural, domestic, and nonprofit employing units.
${ }^{7}$ Rates apply only to experience rated employers and do not include applicable non UI taxes, surtaxes, penalties, or surcharges. In most States, rate year 2016 begins on Jan 1, 2016, and ends on Dec 31, 2016. In NH, NJ, TN, and VT rate year 2016 begins on July 1, 2016, and ends on June 30, 2017. All tax rates for 2016 are initially posted in the July issue. In AR (there is an additional assessment of $2.0 \%$ for employers having a deficit rate for 2 years; $4.0 \%$ for $3-4$ years; $6.0 \%$ for $5-6$ years; and $8.0 \%$ for 7 or more years). In CO experience-rated employers pay an additional 0.2447 of base premium rate for bond principal repayment. In ID, the Admin Reserve Fund is in effect for 2016. Rates for IL include the fund building surcharge. For ME there is an additional $0.06 \%$ for the Competitive Skills Scholarship Fund on all employer rates. NM max rate is $5.4 \%$, but NM assesses an excess claim rate to accounts that exceed $5.4 \%$, not to exceed $1.0 \%$ raising the max rate to $6.4 \%$ for 2016 . For MI, an obligation assessment is calculated for each experience rate and is ${ }_{8}^{8}$ added to each employer's rate. In RI all employers pay an additional $0.21 \%$ for the job development fund.
${ }^{8}$ New employer rate shown is the base rate. Higher rates may apply depending on industry classification and/or other factors: DE (construction employers pay an avg industry rate); DC; IL (4.15\% construction employers and 3.75\% Admin Support \& Waste Mgmt \& Remediation Svcs); IN (1.60\% new governmental employers); IA ( $8.0 \%$ new construction employers and $1.0 \%$ new nonconstruction employers); KS ( $6.0 \%$ new construction employers); KY
(foreign \& domestic construction firms receive max rate); MD (foreign construction contractors 7.5\%); MA (6.73\% new construction employers); ME (predetermined yield); MI (construction employers receive industry rate); MN (high experience rated industry new employers are assigned a rate of $9.10 \%$ plus base rate, assessments, and fees); MT (InAvg, but no less than 1.00\%; for 2016 between 1.00\% and 2.60\%, plus 0.18\% Admin Fund Tax; new governmental entities are assigned median rate, for 2016, $0.36 \%$, plus $0.09 \%$ Alternative Fund Tax); MO (greater of $3.51 \%$ or InAvg; new construction employers pay $4.362 \%$ ); NE ( $1.00 \%$ new nonconstruction industry employers \& $5.40 \%$ new construction industry employers not eligible for experience rating); NJ; NM (new contributing employers will have a rate that is the greater of their industry avg Ul contribution rate or $1.0 \%$. Industry classifications for contributory, experienced employers are used to determine the avg industry rates of new employers. Based on the NAICS code for the establishment, this is the employer's assigned industry rate which remains in effect until 2 years as an experience rate employer is acquired.); NY (highest rate assigned to employers with positive account balances or $3.4 \%$, whichever is less); ND ( $1.07 \%$ new positive-balance nonconstruction employers and $6.10 \%$ new negative-balance nonconstruction employers); OH ( $6.4 \%$ new construction employers); PA ( $10.1947 \%$ new construction employers); RI (new employers pay an additional $0.21 \% \mathrm{Job}$ Development Fund); SD ( $6.0 \%$ construction employers); TN (negative reserve ratio industries effective 07/01/15 through 06/30/16; construction $6.5 \%$; sect $33 \mathrm{mfg} .5 .0 \%$ ); TX; UT (construction employers pay max rate, all others pay InAvg\%); VT (foreign construction employers pay $\operatorname{In} A v g$ ); WA ( $\mathrm{min} / \mathrm{max}$ rates include social cost tax but do not include employment admin fund rates; new employer rate is $90 \%$ of $\operatorname{InAvg}$ ); WV ( $8.5 \%$ new out-of-state construction employers); WI ( $6.60 \%$ all new construction employers, $3.40 \%$ new nonconstruction employers with payrolls of $\$ 500,000$ and over, and $3.25 \%$ new nonconstruction employers with payrolls under $\$ 500,000$ ); and WY (InAvg, but not less than $1.0 \%$ ).

If you have any questions, please contact Loryn Lancaster at 202-693-2994 or Julie Balster at 202-693-3615.

