



GEMA



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# News Release

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## GEORGIA DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE DEADLINES NEAR

**ATLANTA** – If the September severe storms and flooding swept away your income, you may be eligible for the Disaster Unemployment Assistance program. But the deadline for filing for this benefit is fast approaching.

Disaster unemployment can include those who don't normally qualify for unemployment insurance benefits such as the self-employed and farmers.

The filing deadline in Carroll, Chattooga, Cherokee, Cobb, Douglas, Paulding, Stephens, and Walker counties is **Monday, Oct. 26**.

The filing deadline in Bartow, Catoosa, Coweta, DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Heard, Newton, and Rockdale counties is **Friday, Oct. 30**.

All the above counties are designated for assistance to individuals as part of President Obama's disaster declaration of Sept. 24.

You can apply for Disaster Unemployment Assistance if, as a direct result of the disaster, you:

- Became unemployed; or
- Are unable to reach your place of employment; or
- Were scheduled to begin work and do not have a job or are unable to reach the job; or
- Became the major support of a household because the head of the household died; or
- Cannot work because of an injury.

You also must have exhausted state unemployment eligibility and worked or lived a designated county.

Benefits are administered by the Georgia Department of Labor through a partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Disaster unemployment can extend for as long as 26 weeks from the day the disaster is declared.

The Georgia Department of Labor has a dedicated toll-free number to assist the public with Disaster Unemployment questions. People may call **877-709-8185** or check out the Department of Labor's Web site: [www.dol.state.ga.us](http://www.dol.state.ga.us)

(MORE)

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*FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.*

*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 800-462-7585.*

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For more information on Georgia's disaster recovery, visit [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) or [www.gema.ga.gov](http://www.gema.ga.gov) or [www.ready.ga.gov/](http://www.ready.ga.gov/) or <http://twitter.com/GeorgiaEMA> or [www.afcema.com](http://www.afcema.com)