

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI  
DIRECTOR

ANNE EUSTAQUIO  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
[www.labor.hawaii.gov](http://www.labor.hawaii.gov)

May 29, 2020

TO: The Honorable Senate Special Committee COVID-19 Members

FROM: Scott T. Murakami  
Director, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO MEMO DATED MAY 27, 2020 REGARDING RUDDER

I am writing to respond to the questions you posed regarding applicants denied unemployment insurance benefits. First, one of the conditions of extended eligibility under the CARES Act's Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) involves individuals that have exhausted all rights to regular or extended benefits under state or federal law or to Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC). Therefore, some of the denied applicants have applied and obtained PUA benefits.

You also asked the following questions:

**What is current numbers and status of claimants denied;**

There are 49,995 claimants that have been denied benefits as of May 28, 2020.

**What services, resources, or trainings are available to these claimants;**

**What funding and resources would you require to expand your current programs to service claimants that are not eligible for traditional UI benefits;**

These claimants may avail themselves of the services offered through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) including the Adult, Displaced Worker, and Youth Programs and available through the local American Job Centers (AJCs); Wagner-Peyser Employment Services, Disabled Vets Outreach Program, Apprenticeship, Senior Community Service Employment Program, the Employment Services for Low-Income Persons program, and the Employment Services for Legal Permanent Residents program. For a "map" of workforce funding see:

<https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/files/2019/05/Funding-Map-Poster-FINAL-website.pdf>.

**Are there any partnerships that allow you to refer claimants directly to benefit programs in other departments such as DHS?**

Through a partnership agreement with the State Department of Human Services, the Workforce Development Division (WDD) provides job development in all counties for individuals who received benefits through the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). On counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, WDD also provides job readiness workshops for participants to prepare them for work.

Through a similar agreement with the Department of Human Services, WDD staff provides employment and training assistance for individuals receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Hawaii and Kauai Counties.