



DENNIS G. TRAINOR  
Assistant to the Vice President

**To: All NYS Verizon Local Presidents**

**From: Dennis G. Trainor, Assistant to the Vice President**

**Date: August 15, 2011**

**Re: Unemployment Benefits during the strike**

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During the past few days the District One Legal Department has been reviewing the issue of strikers filing for unemployment benefits. Even though strikers generally do not get unemployment insurance in New York State until they have been on strike for seven weeks, the New York Department of Labor advises that Verizon strikers may sign up now. Please find below the recommendation on filing for NYS Unemployment Benefits.

1. **When to open a new claim for benefits on the internet at [www.labor.state.ny.us](http://www.labor.state.ny.us) <<http://www.labor.state.ny.us/>> .**
  - a) **During your first week of eligibility in which you earned \$405.00 or less in gross wages and you worked three days or less**
  - b) **When you can file on line: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 am to 7:30 pm., Friday 7:30 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday 12:01 am through Sunday until 7:00 pm.**
  
2. **When to open a new claim for benefits by telephone through the Telephone Claims Center (TCC) at 1-888-209-8124**
  - a) **During your first week of eligibility in which you earned \$405.00 or less in gross wages and worked three days or less**
  - b) **Time you can call Toll-Free to the TCC: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Note: it makes no difference whether you open up your claim on Monday or Friday as it is the Waiting Week period. Waiting until to open your claim will allow you more time to prepare and to see if secure work during the week.**
  
3. **Certification of the Waiting Week - after opening up your new**

**unemployment insurance claim during your Waiting Week, you must then validate (establish) your claim by certifying (call in) for the Waiting Week on Wednesday of the following week (even if you are back to work). You can certify for your Waiting Week and weekly benefits at 888-581-5812 or via the internet at: [www.labor.state.ny.us](http://www.labor.state.ny.us) <<http://www.labor.state.ny.us/>> .**

Your eligibility and when benefits will commence will be determined by the Unemployment office.

C: L. Riordan  
D. Palmer  
Staff - Verizon