

UPDATED WILDFIRE RESOURCE INFORMATION

October 2020

Disaster Unemployment Assistance Benefits

If you live in Monterey, Santa Clara, or Santa Cruz Counties and have been impacted by the wildfires that started in August, the deadline for filing for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) benefits has been extended to November 30, 2020

The DUA benefits are available to workers, business owners, and self-employed individuals who lost their jobs or business, or had their work hours reduced due to the ongoing wildfires. These benefits apply to losses beginning the week of August 16, 2020, and individuals can receive up to \$450 a week in benefits for a maximum period of 27 weeks

How to Apply: The fastest way for individuals seeking DUA benefits is to use the EDD's UI Online application, available [here](#) in Spanish and English. For more information on DUA assistance benefit criteria click [here](#).

Disaster Nutrition Benefits: Disaster CalFresh (DCF)

If you live or work in Monterey or Santa Cruz Counties, you may be eligible to receive up to \$646 in food benefits through the Disaster CalFresh program. Additional wildfire-affected counties may be added soon.

Individuals and families who lived or worked in eligible counties on August 14 may be eligible for Disaster CalFresh food benefits if the household experienced at least one of the following between August 14-September 12 as a direct result of the wildfires:

- At least one person in the household was not getting regular CalFresh food benefits
- Money was spent because of the wildfire or related power outage
- Money was lost from work because of the wildfire; or
- Money was spent because of damage to a home or business.

Please note households already receiving regular CalFresh food benefits are not eligible to receive Disaster CalFresh food benefits.

How to Apply: Households may apply in the eligible counties on weekdays from October 14 until 22 by calling their local county social services office, submitting a paper application, or submitting an online application. Online applications will be accepted from October 14 until 22 at www.benefitscal.com.

Local Assistance Centers (LACs) in Your Community:

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), in a joint effort with local, state and federal agencies, has made Local Assistance Centers available to those impacted by wildfires. The Local Assistance Centers are a one-stop-shop with critical government services, such as replacing lost or destroyed vital documents (identification documents, financial information, etc.) and getting connected with support services.

Below are available Local Assistance Centers near you:

Monterey County:

A virtual Local Assistance Center for Monterey County is available at:

<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/administrative-office/office-of-emergency-services/response/2020-fires/virtual-local-assistance-center-2>

Santa Clara County:

CalFire Sweetwater Fire Station

47625 Mines Road

Livermore, CA 94550

Santa Cruz County (FEMA assistance only until 10/21):

Kaiser Permanente Arena

140 Front Street

Santa Cruz, CA 95060