

ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN SEEKING WORK

Phone: (517) 373-8080
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Senate Bill 812 as enacted

Public Act 83 of 2020

Sponsor: Sen. Ken Horn

House Committee: Commerce and Tourism [Discharged to the Floor]

Senate Committee: Economic and Small Business Development

Complete to 1-6-21

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 812 amends the Michigan Employment Security Act to revise requirements that a person must be actively engaged in seeking work in order to be eligible to receive unemployment benefits.

The act previously provided that, to be actively engaged in seeking work, an individual had to conduct a systematic and sustained search for work in each week he or she was claiming benefits and use any of the following methods to report the name of each employer where work was sought, that employer's physical or online location, and the date and method by which work was sought with each employer:

- Reporting monthly on the online reporting system of the Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA).
- Mailing or faxing a written report to the UIA, on a form approved by the UIA, by the end of the fourth calendar month after the end of the week when the individual was searching for work.
- Appearing in person monthly at a Michigan Works! agency office.

The bill provides that, to be actively engaged in seeking work, an individual must conduct a systematic and sustained search for work in each week he or she is claiming benefits and report the details of the work search to the UIA at least once every two weeks (or a shorter reporting period if prescribed by the UIA). An individual can do any of the following to conduct a systematic and sustained search for work:

- Use resources available at a Michigan Works! agency office to participate in reemployment services and eligibility assessment services.
- Use resources available at a Michigan Works! agency office to identify the skills he or she has that are consistent with target occupations or demand occupations in the local workforce development area.
- Use resources available at a Michigan Works! agency office to get job postings and seek employment for suitable positions with local employers.
- Attend job search seminars or other employment workshops that improve job search and job placement skills.
- Create a user profile on a professional networking site or using an online career tool.

- Apply for an available position with, submit a resume to, or interview with employers.
- Register for work with a private employment agency or the placement facility of a school, college, or university.
- Take an examination that is required for a state civil service position.

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Legislative Analyst: Rick Yuille

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