



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

**Some Puerto Rico Residents Affected by Hurricane Fiona #DR-4671 May Be Eligible for Federal Disaster Unemployment Assistance**

**(September 30, 2022- San Juan, Puerto Rico)**– Puerto Rico residents affected by Hurricane Fiona may be eligible for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) after President Joe Biden declared a major disaster in all the 78 municipalities of de Puerto Rico: Adjuntas, Aguada, Aguadilla, Aguas Buenas, Aibonito, Añasco, Arecibo, Arroyo, Barceloneta, Barranquitas, Bayamón, Cabo Rojo, Caguas, Camuy, Canóvanas, Carolina, Cataño, Cayey, Ceiba, Ciales, Cidra, Coamo, Comerío, Corozal, Culebra, Dorado, Fajardo, Florida, Guánica, Guayama, Guayanilla, Guaynabo, Gurabo, Hatillo, Hormigueros, Humacao, Isabela, Jayuya, Juana Díaz, Juncos, Lajas, Lares, Las Marías, Las Piedras, Loíza, Luquillo, Manatí, Maricao, Maunabo, Mayagüez, Moca, Morovis, Naguabo, Naranjito, Orocovis, Patillas, Peñuelas, Ponce, Quebradillas, Rincón, Río Grande, Sabana Grande, Salinas, San Germán, San Juan, San Lorenzo, San Sebastián, Santa Isabel, Toa Alta, Toa Baja, Trujillo Alto, Utuado, Vega Alta, Vega Baja, Vieques, Villalba, Yabucoa y Yauco.

Individuals who lost their jobs directly due to the disaster and work or live in one of the above counties may be eligible for these DUA benefits:

- Individuals unable to reach their job because they must travel through the affected area and are prevented by doing so by the disaster.
- Individuals who were to commence employment but were prevented from doing so by the disaster.
- Individuals who became the major support for a household because the death of the head of the household was caused by the disaster.
- Individuals who cannot work because of an injury caused as a direct result of the disaster.

Unemployment is a direct result of the major disaster if the unemployment resulted from:

- The physical damage or destruction of the place of employment.
- The physical inaccessibility of the place of employment due to its closure by the federal, state, or local government in immediate response to the disaster.

- Lack of work, or loss of revenues, if, prior to the disaster, the employer or self-employed business received at least a majority of its revenue or income from an entity in the major disaster area that was damaged or destroyed in the disaster or an entity in the major disaster area closed by the federal, state, or local government.

Before an individual can be determined eligible for DUA, it must be established that the individual is otherwise ineligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits under any state or federal law. Therefore, claimants must first apply for state unemployment benefits by visiting: <https://desempleo.trabajo.pr/reclamantes>. When applying for DUA, claimants should cite "Hurricane Fiona," as the reason for separation. If deemed ineligible for regular benefits, PRDOLHR will reach out to the claimants with further DUA information.

Claims for DUA must be filed by **November 30, 2022**.

The DUA program is a part of the federal disaster assistance process but is administered by the Puerto Rico Department of Labor and Human Resources

More info may be found at [www.trabajo.pr.gov](http://www.trabajo.pr.gov).