

**871—24.26(96) Voluntary quit with good cause attributable to the employer and separations not considered to be voluntary quits.** The following are reasons for a claimant leaving employment with good cause attributable to the employer:

**24.26(1)** A change in the contract of hire. An employer's willful breach of contract of hire shall not be a disqualifiable issue. This would include any change that would jeopardize the worker's safety, health or morals. The change of contract of hire must be substantial in nature and could involve changes in working hours, shifts, remuneration, location of employment, drastic modification in type of work, etc. Minor changes in a worker's routine on the job would not constitute a change of contract of hire.

**24.26(2)** The claimant left due to unsafe working conditions.

**24.26(3)** The claimant left due to unlawful working conditions.

**24.26(4)** The claimant left due to intolerable or detrimental working conditions.

**24.26(5)** The claimant was laid off by the employer for being pregnant; however, availability must still be determined.

**24.26(6)** Separation because of illness, injury, or pregnancy.

*a. Nonemployment related separation.* The claimant left because of illness, injury or pregnancy upon the advice of a licensed and practicing physician. Upon recovery, when recovery was certified by a licensed and practicing physician, the claimant returned and offered to perform services to the employer, but no suitable, comparable work was available. Recovery is defined as the ability of the claimant to perform all of the duties of the previous employment.

*b. Employment related separation.* The claimant was compelled to leave employment because of an illness, injury, or allergy condition that was attributable to the employment. Factors and circumstances directly connected with the employment which caused or aggravated the illness, injury, allergy, or disease to the employee which made it impossible for the employee to continue in employment because of serious danger to the employee's health may be held to be an involuntary termination of employment and constitute good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant will be eligible for benefits if compelled to leave employment as a result of an injury suffered on the job.

In order to be eligible under this paragraph "b" an individual must present competent evidence showing adequate health reasons to justify termination; before quitting have informed the employer of the work-related health problem and inform the employer that the individual intends to quit unless the problem is corrected or the individual is reasonably accommodated. Reasonable accommodation includes other comparable work which is not injurious to the claimant's health and for which the claimant must remain available.

**24.26(7)** Reserved.

**24.26(8)** The claimant left for the necessary and sole purpose of taking care of a member of the claimant's immediate family who was ill or injured, and after that member of the claimant's family was sufficiently recovered, the claimant immediately returned and offered to perform services to the employer, but no work was available. Immediate family is defined as a collective body of persons who live under one roof and under one head or management, or a son or daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law. Members of the immediate family must be related by blood or by marriage.

**24.26(9)** The claimant left employment upon the advice of a licensed and practicing physician for the sole purpose of taking a family member to a place having a different climate and subsequently returned to the claimant's regular employer and offered to perform services, but the claimant's regular or comparable work was not available. However, during the time the claimant was at a different climate the claimant shall be deemed to be unavailable for work notwithstanding that during the absence the claimant secured temporary employment. (Family is defined as: wife, husband, children, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, foster children, brothers, brothers-in-law, sisters, sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles or corresponding relatives of the classified employee's spouse or other relatives of the classified employee or spouse residing in the classified employee's immediate household.)

**24.26(10)** A claimant who underwent a mandatory retirement as of a certain age because of company policy or in accordance with an agreement between the employer and union.

**24.26(11)** The granting of a written release from employment by the employer at the employee's request is a mutual termination of employment and not a voluntary quit. However, this would constitute a period of voluntary unemployment by the employee and the employee would not meet the availability requirement of Iowa Code section 96.4(3).

**24.26(12)** When an employee gives notice of intent to resign at a future date, it is a quit issue on that future date. Should the employer terminate the employee immediately, such employee shall be eligible for benefits for the period between the actual separation and the future quit date given by the claimant.

**24.26(13)** A claimant who, when told of a scheduled future layoff, leaves employment before the layoff date shall be deemed to be not available for work until the future separation date designated by the employer. After the employer-designated date, the separation shall be considered a layoff.

**24.26(14)** Rescinded IAB 7/28/99, effective 9/1/99.

**24.26(15)** Employee of temporary employment firm.

*a.* The individual is a temporary employee of a temporary employment firm who notifies the temporary employment firm within three days of completion of an employment assignment and seeks reassignment under the contract of hire. The employee must be advised by the employer of the notification requirement in writing and receive a copy.

*b.* The individual shall be eligible for benefits under this subrule if the individual had good cause for not contacting the employer within three days and did notify the employer at the first reasonable opportunity.

*c.* Good cause is a substantial and justifiable reason, excuse or cause such that a reasonable and prudent person, who desired to remain in the ranks of the employed, would find to be adequate justification for not notifying the employer. Good cause would include the employer's going out of business; blinding snow storm; telephone lines down; employer closed for vacation; hospitalization of the claimant; and other substantial reasons.

*d.* Notification may be accomplished by going to the employer's place of business, telephoning the employer, faxing the employer, or any other currently accepted means of communications. Working days means the normal days in which the employer is open for business.

**24.26(16)** The claimant left employment for a period not to exceed ten working days or such additional time as was allowed by the employer, for compelling personal reasons and prior to leaving claimant had informed the employer of such compelling personal reasons, and immediately after such compelling personal reasons ceased to exist or at the end of ten working days, whichever occurred first, the claimant returned to the employer and offered to perform services, but no work was available. However, during the time the claimant was away from work because of the continuance of this compelling personal reason, such claimant shall be deemed to be not available for work.

**24.26(17)** Reserved.

**24.26(18)** Reserved.

**24.26(19)** The claimant was employed on a temporary basis for assignment to spot jobs or casual labor work and fulfilled the contract of hire when each of the jobs was completed. An election not to report for a new assignment to work shall not be construed as a voluntary leaving of employment. The issue of a refusal of an offer of suitable work shall be adjudicated when an offer of work is made by the former employer. The provisions of Iowa Code section 96.5(3) and rule 24.24(96) are controlling in the determination of suitability of work. However, this subrule shall not apply to substitute school employees who are subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 96.4(5) which denies benefits that are based on service in an educational institution when the individual declines or refuses to accept a new contract or reasonable assurance of continued employment status. Under this circumstance, the substitute school employee shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

**24.26(20)** The claimant left work voluntarily rather than accept a transfer to another locality that would have caused a considerable personal hardship.

**24.26(21)** The claimant was compelled to resign when given the choice of resigning or being discharged. This shall not be considered a voluntary leaving.

**24.26(22)** The claimant was hired for a specific period of time and completed the contract of hire by working until this specific period of time had lapsed. However, this subrule shall not apply to substitute

school employees who are subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 96.4(5) which denies benefits that are based on service in an educational institution when the individual declines or refuses to accept a new contract or reasonable assurance of continued employment status. Under this circumstance, the substitute school employees shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

**24.26(23)** The claimant left work because the type of work was misrepresented to such claimant at the time of acceptance of the work assignment.

**24.26(24)** Reserved.

**24.26(25)** Temporary active military duty. A member of the national guard or organized military reserves of the armed forces of the United States ordered to temporary active duty for the purpose of military training or ordered on active state service, shall be entitled to a leave of absence during the period of such duty. The employer shall restore such person to the position held prior to such leave of absence, or employ such person in a similar position; provided, that such person shall give evidence to the employer of satisfactory completion of such training or duty, and further provided that such person is still qualified to perform the duties of such position.

**24.26(26)** Reserved.

**24.26(27)** Refusal to exercise bumping privilege. An individual who has left employment in lieu of exercising the right to bump or oust a fellow employee with less seniority shall be eligible for benefits.

**24.26(28)** The claimant left the transferring employer and accepted work with the acquiring employer at the time the employer acquired a clearly segregable and identifiable part of the transferring employer's business or enterprise. Under this condition, the balancing account shall immediately become chargeable for the benefits paid which are based on the wages paid by the transferring employer, provided the acquiring employer does not receive a partial successorship, and no disqualification shall be imposed if the claimant is otherwise eligible.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 96.3(3), 96.4(3), 96.4(5), 96.5(1), 96.5(3), 96.6(1), 96.16, and 96.19(38).

<sup>1</sup> Effective date of 3/17/99 delayed 70 days by the Administrative Rules Review Committee at its meeting held March 8, 1999.