

871—24.39(96) Department-approved training. The intent of department-approved training is to allow for claimants to return to the labor market after attending vocational training while being paid unemployment insurance benefits. Vocational training is nonacademic, skill-oriented training that provides the student with job tools and skills that can be used in the workplace. Vocational training includes technical, skill-based, or job readiness training intended for pursuing a career. Upon approval from the department, the claimant shall be exempt from the work search requirement for continued eligibility for benefits. In order to be eligible for department-approved training programs and to maintain continuing participation therein, the individual shall meet the following requirements:

24.39(1) The claimant must make application to the department setting out the following:

- a.* The educational establishment at which the claimant would receive training.
- b.* The estimated time required for such training.
- c.* The date the training will be complete or the degree will be obtained.
- d.* The occupation which the training is allowing the claimant to maintain or pursue.
- e.* The training plan, indicating the requirements which must be met in order to complete the certification or degree.

24.39(2) A claimant may receive unemployment insurance while attending a training course approved by the department, under the following conditions:

- a.* The educational establishment must be a college, university or technical training institution.
- b.* The training must be completed 104 weeks or less from the start date.
- c.* The individual must be enrolled and attending the training program in person as a full-time student.

While attending the approved training course, the claimant need not be available for work or actively seeking work, except if the hours of the training are outside the regular hours worked in the base period employment. After completion of department-approved training, the claimant must, in order to continue to be eligible for unemployment insurance, place no restriction on employability. The claimant must be able to work, be available for work and be actively searching for work. In addition, the claimant may be subject to disqualification for any refusal of work without good cause after the claimant has completed the training.

24.39(3) The claimant must show satisfactory attendance and progress in the training course prior to being considered for a subsequent approval and must demonstrate that such claimant has the necessary finances to complete the training to substantiate the expenditure of unemployment insurance funds.

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