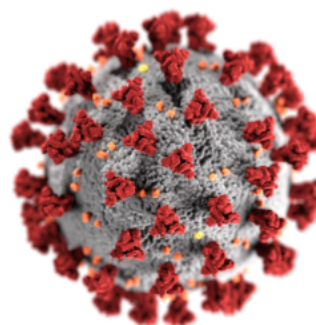




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COVID-19 Updates



Emergency Regulations regarding Unemployment Payments and Special Grants for Employees above the Age of 67

30/03/2020

On March 27, 2020, the Emergency Regulations (New Coronavirus) (Unemployment Payment) and Emergency Regulations (New Coronavirus) (Special Adjustment Grant for those aged 67 and over), 2020, came into effect.

The above regulations state in brief, as follows:

1. Anyone who submits an unemployment claim to the National Insurance Institute ("NII") between March 15 – April 7, 2020, but who has not registered as unemployed in the Employment Service Bureau, or who registered but the information was not transferred to the NII, shall be defined as unemployed for the purpose of entitlement to unemployment payments for the month of March 2020. The entitlement will be effective as of March 15, 2020, or on the day of his termination, whichever is later, subject to providing proof of his termination of employment.
2. The NII may pay an insured person who filed a claim for unemployment between March 1 – April 7, 2020, whose claim has yet to be processed, an advance of up to NIS 2,000 for the month of March 2020.
3. An insured person who has been terminated from his employment or an insured person who has been forced to take unpaid leave for a continuous period of at least 30 days, between March 1 - April 19, 2020, shall be entitled to unemployment even if s/he has not completed a 12-month qualifying period over the last 18 months,

provided that s/he has accumulated a minimum qualification period of at least six months. The number of unemployment days of which the insured is entitled to were limited by the regulations.

4. The period of entitlement to receive unemployment benefits has been extended, and any insured person who is no longer eligible for unemployment benefits due to the fact that he reaches the maximum payment period applicable to him in under the NII Law during the period between March 1 - April 30, 2020, will be entitled to continue to receive unemployment benefits until April 30, 2020.

5. Persons aged 67 or older who were employed during the three months preceding the termination of their employment, whether laid off or placed on unpaid leave, for a continuous period of 30 days between March 1 - April 19, 2020, are entitled to a special adjustment grant in the amount of NIS 1,000 - NIS 4,000 depending on their salary and the date their employment was discontinued.

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