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SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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Deadline Approaches for Disaster Unemployment Assistance

The deadline to apply for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is nearing for Berkeley, Charleston and Chesterfield counties, which were declared eligible for individual assistance by FEMA.

Residents of these three counties affected by Hurricane Matthew have until Nov. 28 to file for Disaster Unemployment Assistance.

Deadlines for the other 21 counties affected by hurricane were last week.

“We encourage anyone who has lost wages, due to the direct result of the storm, to apply for assistance,” said Cheryl Stanton, executive director of the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW). “Regardless if you are an employee, self-employed or the owner of a small business, this program is designed for you.”

The following are county-by-county application filing deadlines for DUA:

Counties	Date of Announcement	Filing Deadline
Marion Orangeburg	10/17/2016	11/16/2016
Allendale Bamberg Barnwell Beaufort Colleton Darlington Dillon Dorchester	10/18/2016	11/17/2016

Florence Georgetown Hampton Jasper Lee Sumter Williamsburg		
Clarendon Calhoun Horry Marlboro	10/19/2016	11/18/2016
Berkeley Charleston Chesterfield	10/25/2016	11/28/2016

One or more the following criteria must be met to qualify for this program:

- Individuals who are unemployed due to the disaster, and do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits.
- Self-employed individuals and small business owners who lost income due to the disaster.
- Individuals who were prevented from working due to an injury caused by the disaster.
- Individuals who have become the major supplier of household income due to the disaster-related death or injury of the previous major supplier of household income.
- Individuals who are unable to reach their job or self-employment location because they must travel through the affected area and are prevented from doing so by the disaster.
- Individuals who were to commence employment or self-employment but were prevented by the disaster.

Applicants can file immediately at mybenefits.dew.sc.gov/. Please check www.dew.sc.gov for updates on this program. Applicants have 30 days from the announcement that the county was declared a disaster to file a claim under this program.

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About DEW

*The S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce is putting South Carolinians to work. The agency invests in building a pipeline of quality workers, matches workers with jobs, and is a bridge for individuals who find themselves out of work for no fault of their own. This promotes financial stability and economic prosperity for employers, individuals and communities. **DEW** is dedicated to advancing South Carolina through services that meet the needs of the state's businesses, jobseekers and those looking to advance their careers.*