



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Employment Commission

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Commissioner

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For Release: December 8, 2011

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FEMA 4042 DR

DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE APPLICATION DEADLINE NEARS

RICHMOND—Monday, December 12, 2011, is the deadline for individuals unable to work due to the earthquake that occurred in Louisa County on August 23 to apply for disaster unemployment assistance.

Self-employed and unemployed workers who live or work in the designated disaster area and are not covered by regular state unemployment insurance programs may be eligible for this federally-funded assistance made available by the major disaster declaration of President Obama on November 4, 2011. Under this program, benefits of up to \$378 per week may be paid to eligible individuals until they are able to return to work.

Disaster unemployment assistance covers those whose place of business/employment was in the affected jurisdiction and:

- No longer have a job as a direct result of the disaster;
- Are unable to reach their place of employment as a direct result of the disaster;
- Were to commence employment and do not have a job or are unable to reach the job as a direct result of the disaster;
- Are self employed but are prevented from working due to the effects of the disaster;
- Have become the breadwinner or major support of a household because the head of the household died as a direct result of the disaster; or
- Cannot work because of injury caused as a direct result of the disaster.

Anyone interested in filing for disaster unemployment assistance should visit the nearest Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) field office on or before the filing deadline of Monday, December 12, 2011. Applicants should have their Social Security number and, if possible, documentation showing earnings for the year 2010.

For further information, contact C. B. Pierce at the VEC at (804) 786-1883 or Bob Spieldenner at the Virginia Department of Emergency Management at (804) 897-6510.

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