



California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board

FACT SHEET

Calendar Year 2016

Who is the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board?

Established by the California Legislature in 1943, they are a full-time Board consisting of five members, three appointed by the Governor and one each appointed by the Senate President Pro Temp and Speaker of the Assembly. The Board's statutory authority is within the California's Code of Regulations, Title 22.

What is the Board's role?

Each Board member receives approximately 40 Board appeals cases on a daily basis. The Board members' appeal review is comprehensive to ensure the Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) provided the worker and/or employer due process and the law was fairly applied.

The Board also adopts regulations to establish procedures and time limits for appeals; enacts a budget for staff, facilities, and equipment; issues policies on a variety of topics; and publishes precedent appeals decisions.

What is a Board appeal?

When an unemployed or injured worker applies for unemployment or disability benefits, an Employment Development Department (EDD) program representative reviews their work history to determine eligibility. If a worker is denied benefits by EDD, the worker may request a hearing before an ALJ (Judicial appeal). If the ALJ decides in favor of the EDD, the worker may appeal to the Board (Board appeal).

As well, if an employer disagrees with EDD determining eligibility for a worker, the employer may request a hearing with a ALJ and pursue an appeal to the Board. Employers may also dispute any EDD tax related documents.

Are workers & employers successful with their appeals to the Board?

In the 2016 calendar year, the Board found merit in Board appeals of unemployment insurance benefit cases and reversed ALJ's decisions in about 18% of the appealed cases. Seventy-five percent of the reversed decisions were filed by unemployed or injured workers with the remaining 25% filed by employers or the EDD.

How many appeals does the Board review?

In the 2016 calendar year, 13,414 Board appeals were completed by the Board.

How long does a Board appeal take?

For December 2016, the average wait time for workers' and employers' board appeal decisions was 47 days.

Is the Board appeal unique to California?

No, California's Board appeal review is a national standard model. Of the 53 U.S. states and territories, only four do not have second level appeals.

How is the Board funded for Fiscal Year 2016-17?

- 91.0% Federal UI Grant Funding
- 7.7% State DI Special Funds
- 0.6% State General Fund
- 0.7% Other

For more information:

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