



California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board

FACT SHEET

Calendar Year 2018

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 received on average 39 Board appeals on a daily basis in Calendar Year 2018. 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 2018 calendar year, the Board found merit in Board appeals of unemployment insurance benefit cases and reversed ALJ's decisions in about 13% of the appealed cases. Seventy-six percent of the reversed decisions were filed by unemployed or injured workers with the remaining 24% filed by employers or the EDD.

How many appeals does the Board review?

In Calendar Year 2018, 12,285 Board appeals were completed by the Board.

How long does a Board appeal take?

For December 2018, the average wait time for workers' and employers' board appeal decisions was 30 days.

Is the Board appeal unique to California?

No, California's Board appeal review is a national standard model. Of the 53 US states and territories, only five do not have second level appeals (District of Columbia, Hawaii, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Virgin Islands).

How is the Board funded for Fiscal Year 2018-19?

- 86.4% Federal UI Grant Funding
- 8.5% State DI Special Funds
- 4.9% State General Fund
- 0.3% Other

For more information:

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