**Section 2865.215 When an Individual's Prospects for Finding Work Shall Be Deemed To Be Good**

a) An individual filing for extended benefits who has a definite date to return to work for a former employer or who has a bona fide offer of work to begin within four weeks shall be classified as having good prospects for returning to work in his or her customary occupation. This means that, should this individual refuse an offer of work, that refusal shall be adjudicated pursuant to Section 603 of the Act and Section 409K3(c)(iii) shall not apply to this individual.

b) Whether an individual's prospects of finding work in his or her customary occupation are good shall be determined at the time that he or she files his or her initial claim for extended benefits. However, the classification shall be included in any determination of refusal of work under Section 409K3(c) of the Act, and at the time, shall be subject to review.

EXAMPLE: An individual files a claim for extended benefits and reports that he will return to his former employer on March 31. He does not return to work for his former employer on March 31 and then refuses an offer of work on April 14. This refusal of work shall be adjudicated in accordance with the provisions of Section 409K3(c) because the individual's prospects of returning to his customary occupation were not good because he did not return to work for his former employer as scheduled.

c) If the claimant does not start work on the designated date, then his or her prospects of finding work in his or her customary occupation shall no longer be considered good.

d) The individual must provide the name, address and starting date of employment for any employer whom the individual claims as a basis for having his or her prospects of finding work in his or her customary occupation found to be good.

e) An individual can also show that his or her prospects of finding work in his or her customary occupation are good by showing that he or she was recently employed in his or her customary occupation, that he or she recently completed training in that occupation or that new opportunities for employment in his or her customary occupation recently became available.

f) This Section shall not apply to weeks beginning on or after March 7, 1993 and before January 1, 1995.

g) This Section shall not apply to weeks beginning on or after May 17, 2020, with respect to individuals whose unemployment is directly impacted by COVID-19. The provisions of this subsection (g) are applicable to the extent permitted by section 4102(b) of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127, Division D, Emergency Unemployment Insurance Stabilization and Access Act of 2020 (EUISAA)).

(Source: Amended at 44 Ill. Reg. 17662, effective October 23, 2020)