

## **Handout for Roadmap Writers Webinar 3/23/20**

In these uncertain times, having information helps. Here is some broad, general information to start you off. Every situation/circumstance is different. Is there a contract? Are you a salaried employee or an independent contractor? What does it say about things like force majeure, at-will, ties, etc.?

It's best to consult a lawyer or other professional with experience in these areas. Even your employer's HR department can help guide you through your situation, whether for planning purposes or because your job's hours have been reduced, your job has been suspended, or it has been eliminated.

No matter what, it is essential, within this chaos to remain connected to others, to share information, to do your best to take advantage of the resources available to you, and to be there as a support for others to the best of your ability.

### **Some resources for this time**

#### ***Who may file for Unemployment Insurance Benefits?***

Employees who meet eligibility requirements based on hours, status and other factors. Independent contractors, self-employed, and business owners are typically not eligible

See [EDD website](#) and [Guardian.com](#)

#### ***Where do I file for Unemployment Insurance Benefits?***

On the [EDD](#) website

#### ***How many people are filing due to the Corona Virus?***

Normally, about 2,000/day apply for UI; a/o 3/19, it was 80,000 in a day, having doubled in a 48-hour period. See [CAPRadio](#)

#### ***What types of benefits are available?***

Unemployment Insurance, which is usually 26 weeks

Disability Benefits (usually 52 weeks) or Disability insurance; Disability packages may vary by employer; some offer benefits in excess of what the state or Federal government may offer

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Other possible benefits/relief available include: Unused vacation pay; Sick leave including the House of Representatives Family First Bill that passed on 3/16; see this [article](#) for links to places that can offer other types of relief; May also depend on action taken, e.g., reduced hours, furlough, suspension, termination; This [article](#) lays out a variety of options as well

### ***What is a furlough?***

A furlough is a “mandatory, temporary, unpaid leave from work. Employees will come back to their jobs when the employer notifies them that the leave has ended.” This [article](#) explains some of the strategies an employer might choose in these scary times including furlough.

### ***Are there other resources to be aware of?***

The WGA posted this [resource list](#).

[Netflix's 100M fund](#) – are you eligible?

Stay safe; stay healthy; stay at home; be patient with others, especially those at big organizations trying to help you because they are there supporting who knows how many other people who also need help; take advantage of the moment to do the things you've been putting off or that you always wanted to do! Try to have some fun despite the craziness.

Some words of inspiration from award-winning, international author, David Grossman in response to the Corona virus pandemic: “The very act of exercising the imagination from the depths of the despair and the fear that now prevail possesses a force of its own. The imagination can not only see doom, it can also sustain freedom of the mind. In paralyzing times like these, the imagination is like an anchor that we cast from the depths of despair into the future, which we then start to pull ourselves toward. The very ability to imagine a better situation means that we have not yet allowed the plague, and the dismay it causes, to nationalize our whole being. As such, it is possible to hope that perhaps, when the plague ends and the air will be filled with feelings of healing and recuperation and health, a different spirit will pervade humanity; a spirit of easefulness and of a new freshness.” Here's a link to the full [article](#).



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