Board of Review 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 400 Boston, MA 02114 Phone: 617-626-6400

Fax: 617-727-5874

Issue ID: 334-FHJ5-D4L4

Paul T. Fitzgerald, Esq. Chairman Charlene A. Stawicki, Esq. Member Michael J. Albano Member

Introduction and Procedural History of this Appeal

The claimant appeals a decision by a review examiner of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) to deny the claimant benefits beginning April 20, 2025, until the date the claimant completes her Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) review (RESEA review). We review, pursuant to our authority under G.L. c. 151A, § 41, and we affirm in part and reverse in part.

The claimant filed a claim for benefits, effective January 19, 2025, and was found to be eligible. However, on March 24, 2025, the agency determined that the claimant was not entitled to unemployment benefits beginning March 16, 2025. The claimant appealed and attended the hearing. In a decision rendered on April 19, 2025, the review examiner modified the agency determination, concluding that the claimant had good cause for her failure to complete the RESEA review by the March 21, 2025, deadline date, but that the claimant had not established that she had completed the review as of the date of the hearing on April 17, 2025. Thus, he concluded that the claimant was not disqualified from March 16, 2025, to the week ending April 19, 2025, but she was disqualified beginning April 20, 2025, until the date she completes the review pursuant to G.L. c. 151A, § 25(a). The Board accepted the claimant's application for review.

Ruling of the Board

After considering the recorded testimony and evidence from the hearing, the review examiner's decision, and the claimant's appeal, we conclude that the review examiner's decision as to having good cause is based on substantial evidence and is free from any error of law affecting substantive rights.

However, because the review examiner concluded that the claimant demonstrated good cause to miss the RESEA Review deadline pursuant to the DUA regulations at 430 CMR 4.01(8)(a) and (b), it was an error to disqualify her from receiving benefits. See 430 CMR 4.01(8)(d). In this case, records from the Career Center's Massachusetts One Stop Employment System (MOSES) also show that the claimant was able to attain her RESEA review on April 23, 2025, the week after the hearing. Therefore, the claimant may not be disqualified for the weeks following the hearing.

The review examiner's decision is affirmed in part and reversed in part. The claimant is entitled to receive benefits for the week beginning March 16, 2025, and for subsequent weeks if otherwise eligible.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS DATE OF DECISION - June 11, 2025

Carl Y. Jiguall Paul T. Fitzgerald, Esq.

Chairman

Charlens A. Stawicki

Charlene A. Stawicki, Esq. Member

Member Michael J. Albano did not participate in this decision.

ANY FURTHER APPEAL WOULD BE TO A MASSACHUSETTS STATE DISTRICT COURT

(See Section 42, Chapter 151A, General Laws, Enclosed)

The last day to appeal this decision to a Massachusetts District Court is thirty days from the mail date on the first page of this decision. If that thirtieth day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the last day to appeal this decision is the business day next following the thirtieth day.

To locate the nearest Massachusetts District Court, see: www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/courthouses

Please be advised that fees for services rendered by an attorney or agent to a claimant in connection with an appeal to the Board of Review are not payable unless submitted to the Board of Review for approval, under G.L. c. 151A, § 37.

AB/rh