

Board of Review
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Issue ID: 334-FHJH-J2J7

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 for the period from March 30, 2025, to May 24, 2025, due to her failure to timely complete her Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) seminar and review. We review, pursuant to our authority under G.L. c. 151A, § 41, and we affirm in part and reverse in part.

On April 7, 2025, the agency initially determined that the claimant was not entitled to unemployment benefits, beginning March 30, 2025. The claimant appealed and attended the hearing. In a decision rendered on July 18, 2025, the review examiner modified the agency determination, concluding that the claimant did not have good cause for her failure to timely meet her RESEA deadlines, including the RESEA seminar deadline of April 4, 2025, and the RESEA review deadline of April 18, 2025. Thus, she was disqualified pursuant to G.L. c. 151A, § 25(a), until she attained her RESEA review. Specifically, the review examiner disqualified the claimant from March 30, 2025, to May 24, 2025. 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 is based on substantial evidence and is free from any error of law affecting substantive rights.

However, the claimant is entitled to benefits during the week ending April 12, 2025. Although 430 CMR 4.01(8)(a), disqualifies a claimant who fails to participate in a RESEA services seminar and such follow-up review sessions as directed, the DUA imposes only a one-week disqualification for failure to attend the RESEA seminar. *See* DUA Adjudication Handbook (Revised Mar. 1, 2025), Ch. 2, p. 4. Inasmuch as the claimant's RESEA seminar deadline was April 4, 2025, the claimant was properly disqualified during the week ending April 5, 2025, but she may not be disqualified during the following week.

The review examiner correctly disqualified the claimant during the week in which she failed to complete her RESEA review, the week ending April 19, 2025, and until she finally completed the RESEA review. Since she completed the RESEA review on May 29, 2025, the disqualification ends on May 24, 2025.

The review examiner's decision is affirmed in part and reversed in part. The claimant is denied benefits for the week ending April 5, 2025, and for the period from April 13, 2025, to May 24, 2025. She is entitled to receive benefits for the week ending April 12, 2025, if otherwise eligible.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
DATE OF DECISION - August 29, 2025



Paul T. Fitzgerald, Esq.
Chairman



Michael J. Albano
Member

Member Charlene A. Stawicki, Esq. 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