

Notice to fishing-boat workers!

You might not be eligible for unemployment benefits.



After July 28, 2013, you are not automatically covered for unemployment benefits if:

- You work on a boat with fewer than 10 workers engaged in catching fish or other aquatic animals, and
- You are paid by receiving a share of the boat's catch.

(This includes all work on the boat, including maintenance, repair, tendering, etc., if your pay is based only on a share of the catch.)

You can use wages to qualify for unemployment benefits if:

- You were paid wages instead of – or in addition to – a share of the catch, or
- If the boat had 10 or more workers.

Employers may provide unemployment insurance if they wish.

Employers can choose to cover a boat's crew for unemployment benefits by submitting a Voluntary Election Form, which must be approved by the Employment Security Department.



Employment Security Department
WASHINGTON STATE

Find the form at esd.wa.gov. Enter "voluntary election" in the Search box.

Employers can contact Employment Security at status@esd.wa.gov for more information.

Visit esd.wa.gov and click "Laws & regulations" (bottom of the homepage) to read the law (RCW 50.04.170 and WAC 192-310-100).

The Employment Security Department is an equal-opportunity employer and provider of programs and services. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to people with disabilities. Auxiliary aids may include telecommunication devices (TTY) for hearing- or speech-impaired individuals.