Struggling to Get Unemployment Benefits? Here’s What You Need to Know.

We’ve filed a class action lawsuit against the Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) over its unemployment insurance system.

The case seeks to fix:
1. The VEC’s failure to promptly review and decide applications for unemployment benefits, and
2. The VEC abruptly cutting off payments to those receiving unemployment benefits without explanation.

Who can join the class action lawsuit and how?
Anyone whose legal rights are affected by the case is automatically a part of the class action. You do not need to do anything to “join.” Those affected will be notified once the case settles.

Need help with VEC issues not covered by the class action lawsuit?
You may be able to get legal help from your local legal aid. Call 1-866-LEGLAID (1-866-534-5243) to reach your local legal aid office.

Learn more about the VEC lawsuit here: justice4all.org/ui/
The link also provides opportunities to:
1. Share your story with us as we bring the lawsuit and push for change.
2. Demand that Governor Northam act now to fix the VEC.

Other Sources of Help While Waiting for Unemployment Benefits

Food Assistance
Find out if you may be eligible for SNAP (commonly known as “food stamps”) and an estimated amount of benefits you could receive: vplc.org/snapcalculator/.

Health Insurance
Call our ENROLL Virginia! Health Insurance Helpline: 888-392-5132.

Utilities
Call our Utility Helpline: 804-313-9363.

Eviction
Facing eviction because you cannot pay your rent?
• Call our Eviction Legal Helpline: 833-NOEVICT (833-663-8428).
• View our quick guide: I Need Help with Rent NOW!
• View our comprehensive guide on staying housed during COVID-19: housing.vplc.org/

Paying Your Mortgage
Get free help from a certified housing counselor.