



**AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES  
PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA 96799**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **American Samoa Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) ANNOUNCES UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE**

American Samoa, Pago Pago-March 26, 2021 – The Department of Labor (DOL) and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP Act) announced the updates of the further extension for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) and the extended benefits for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The new stimulus bill signed by Biden extends the PUA term and the FPUC benefit of \$300 for weeks beginning March 14 through the week ending Sept. 4, 2021. A claimant must be eligible for PUA to receive FPUC.

The American Samoa PUA office under the Department of Human Resources (DHR) began accepting new applications and continued weekly benefit requests on March 22, 2021.

The extended unemployment benefits and assistance bring relief to claimants whose employment suffered as a result of COVID-19.

For more information on the assistance provisions provided by ARP, please visit PUA office at Pago Plaza or call 633-2206