

train and engine service who voluntarily lays off work in anticipation of reaching the maximum mileage or earnings permitted under an agreement with his or her employer shall not be considered available for work.

(2) *Example.* Halfway through the month an engineer has worked in train service covering 2,000 miles. By agreement with his or her employer he or she may not operate a train in excess of 3,000 miles per month. In order to allow engineers with less seniority to perform service, the engineer lays off work for five days. The engineer is not considered available for work on those days.

(g) *Confinement.* A claimant who is confined in a penal institution or is in the custody of a Federal, State or local governmental unit or official thereof shall not be considered available for work. An individual shall not be considered in the custody of a governmental unit or official thereof if he or she has been released on bail and is awaiting trial or he or she has been placed on probation or parole. However, an individual who has been released from custody by a governmental unit or official thereof under a program that permits leave from custody of a short duration, after which he or she must return to custody, shall not be considered available for work on those days on which he or she is on furlough from confinement.

(h) *Missed turns in pool service.* A train and engine service employee assigned to pool service shall not be considered as ready to work, within the meaning of §327.5(c) of this part, with respect to any day on which such employee would have worked if he or she had not missed his or her turn in pool service employment.

[Board Order 53-296, 18 FR 8157, Dec. 12, 1953, as amended by Board Order 55-30, 20 FR 1015, Feb. 17, 1955; 55 FR 1811, Jan. 19, 1990]

**§327.15 Reasonable efforts to obtain work.**

(a) *Requirement.* A claimant may be required at any time to show, as evidence of willingness to work, that he is making reasonable efforts to obtain work which he professes to be willing to accept and perform, unless he has good prospects of obtaining such work

or his circumstances are such that any efforts to obtain work other than by making application for employment service pursuant to §325.3 of this chapter would be fruitless to the claimant.

(b) *Failure to comply with requirement.* When the office of the Board which is adjudicating claims for benefits has information that the claimant has failed to comply with the requirements set forth in paragraph (a) of this section, no benefits shall be paid with respect to any days in the period of the claimant's unemployment unless sufficient evidence of the claimant's availability for work on such days is presented.

(c) *What constitutes reasonable efforts.* A claimant shall be considered as making reasonable efforts to obtain work when he takes such steps toward obtaining work as are appropriate to his circumstances. In determining what steps are appropriate to a claimant's circumstances, consideration shall be given to actions such as:

- (1) Registering with a union hiring or placement facility;
- (2) Applying for employment with former employers;
- (3) Making application with employers including individuals and companies not covered by the act, who may reasonably be expected to have openings in work suitable for him;
- (4) Responding to appropriate "want ads" for work which appears suitable for him;
- (5) Actively prosecuting his claim for reinstatement in his former work;
- (6) Any other action reasonably directed toward obtaining work.

[Board Order 53-296, 18 FR 8157, Dec. 12, 1953, as amended at 55 FR 1812, Jan. 19, 1990]

**PART 330—DETERMINATION OF DAILY BENEFIT RATES**

- Sec.
- 330.1 Introduction.
- 330.2 Computation of daily benefit rate.
- 330.3 Daily rate of compensation.
- 330.4 Last railroad employment in the base year.
- 330.5 Procedure for obtaining and using information about daily rate of compensation.

AUTHORITY: 45 U.S.C. 362(1).

SOURCE: 56 FR 28702, June 24, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

## § 330.1

## 20 CFR Ch. II (4-1-25 Edition)

### § 330.1 Introduction.

The Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act provides for the payment of benefits, at a specified daily benefit rate, to any qualified employee for his or her days of unemployment or days of sickness, subject to a maximum amount per day. The “daily benefit rate” for an employee is the amount of benefits that he or she may receive for each compensable day of unemployment or sickness in any registration period in a period of continuing unemployment or sickness.

[65 FR 19648, Apr. 12, 2000]

### § 330.2 Computation of daily benefit rate.

(a) *Basic formula.* A qualified employee’s daily benefit rate for a given benefit year, as defined in part 302 of this chapter, is an amount equal to 60 percent of the employee’s daily rate of compensation for his or her last railroad employment in the applicable base year, but such rate will not exceed the maximum amount set forth in paragraph (b) of this section nor will it be less than \$12.70 per day.

(b) *Maximum daily benefit rate.* The maximum daily benefit rate is the product of the monthly compensation base, as computed under part 302 of this chapter, for the base year immediately preceding the beginning of the benefit year, multiplied by five percent. If the maximum daily benefit rate so computed is not a multiple of \$1.00, the Board will round it down to the nearest multiple of \$1.00.

(c) *When increase effective.* Whenever the annual application of the formula in paragraph (b) of this section triggers an increase in the maximum daily benefit rate, such increase will apply to days of unemployment or days of sickness in registration periods beginning after June 30 of the calendar year immediately following the base year referred to in paragraph (b) of this section.

(d) *Notice.* Whenever the annual application of the formula in paragraph (b) of this section triggers an increase in the maximum daily benefit rate, or if the annual application of the formula does not trigger an increase, the Board will publish a notice in the FEDERAL

REGISTER explaining how it computed the maximum daily benefit rate for the year. The Board will also notify each employer of the maximum amount of the daily benefit rate. The Board will make the computation as soon as it has computed the amount of the monthly compensation base under part 302 of this chapter and will publish notice as soon as possible thereafter, but in no event later than June 1 of each year. Information as to the current amount of the maximum daily benefit rate will also be available in any Board district or regional office.

(e) *Sources of information.* In determining an employee’s daily rate of compensation for the purpose of computing his or her daily benefit rate, the Board will rely on information furnished by the employee and his or her last employer in the base year. An employee’s earnings from employment not covered by the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act are not considered in computing his or her daily benefit rate.

[56 FR 28702, June 24, 1991, as amended at 65 FR 19648, Apr. 12, 2000]

### § 330.3 Daily rate of compensation.

(a) *Definition.* An employee’s daily rate of compensation is his or her straight-time rate of pay, including any cost-of-living allowance provided in any applicable working agreement. It does not include any overtime pay, penalty payment, or other special allowance except as hereinafter provided. An employer’s or employee’s report of the daily rate of compensation shall, in the absence of information to the contrary, and subject to the considerations set forth in this section and §§ 330.4 and 330.5, be considered to show the daily rate of compensation of the employee by or for whom the report has been furnished. Where a rate other than a daily rate is reported, the Board will convert it to a daily rate.

(b) *Hourly, weekly or monthly rate.* An hourly rate shall be converted to a daily rate by multiplying such hourly rate by the number of hours constituting a working day for the employee’s occupation or class of service. A weekly or monthly rate shall be converted to a daily rate by dividing such rate by the number of working days

## Railroad Retirement Board

## § 330.5

constituting the work week or work month, as the case may be, for the employee's occupation or class of service.

(c) *Mileage rate.* When a collective bargaining agreement provides for payment of compensation on a mileage basis, the employee's daily rate of compensation is his or her rate of pay for the number of miles constituting a basic day, including any allowance, as prescribed by the agreement, that is added to his or her basic rate of pay for the number of miles constituting a basic day.

(d) *Piece rate or tonnage rate.* Where a piece rate or tonnage rate is reported, the daily rate of compensation shall be determined by computing the employee's average earnings per day for the days on which he or she worked substantially full time (excluding any overtime pay or penalty rates) at such piece rate or tonnage rate during the last two pay periods in which he or she engaged in such work in the base year.

(e) *Commissions or percentage of sales.* Where the compensation reported consists of or includes commissions or percentages of sales, the daily rate of such commissions or percentage of sales shall be determined by computing the employee's average net commissions or percentage earnings (excluding any amounts he or she received to compensate him or her for expenses) per day for the days in the last two pay periods in which he or she worked on a commission or percentage basis in the base year.

(f) *International service.* In the case of an employee who, on his last day of employment in the base year, worked partly outside the United States and partly in the United States for an employer not conducting the principal part of its business in the United States, the employee's daily rate of compensation shall be determined in the same manner as it would if all his service on that day had been rendered in the United States.

### § 330.4 Last railroad employment in the base year.

The phrase "last railroad employment in the applicable base year," as used in § 330.2(a) of this part, means generally the employee's last "service performed as an employee," within the

meaning of section 1(g) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act. If an employee did not actually perform any service as an employee in the applicable base year (the calendar year preceding a benefit year) but did receive qualifying compensation such as vacation pay or pay for time lost for days in such base year, the Board will consider that his or her last railroad employment in the base year was the employment on which the qualifying compensation was based. The daily rate of such compensation shall be deemed to be the employee's daily rate of compensation for purposes of this part. If an employee's last railroad employment in the base year was casual or temporary work and was performed while on furlough from other base year railroad employment, the Board will disregard the daily rate of compensation paid for the casual or temporary work if such rate of compensation produces a daily benefit rate lower than the daily benefit rate based on the daily rate of compensation for the employment from which the employee was furloughed.

### § 330.5 Procedure for obtaining and using information about daily rate of compensation.

(a) *Information furnished by employers.* Every employer, as defined in part 301 of this chapter, shall furnish information to the Board with respect to the daily rate of compensation of each employee for his or her last employment in the applicable base year. The employer shall make such report when it files its annual report of compensation in accordance with part 209 of this chapter and shall use the form prescribed by the Board for that purpose. If an employee's last daily rate of compensation in the base year is \$99.99 or more, the employer may report such rate as \$99.99 instead of the employee's actual last daily rate of compensation. In the absence of evidence to the contrary or a challenge by the employee, the daily rate of compensation provided by an employer under this section shall be used to compute a qualified employee's daily benefit rate. If an employer fails to report the last daily rate of compensation for a qualified employee who has applied for benefits

or if an employee challenges the daily rate reported by an employer, the procedure in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section will apply.

(b) *Information furnished by employee.* The Board will afford an employee an opportunity to establish his or her last daily rate of compensation if the base year employer did not report a rate for the employee on its annual report of compensation or if the employee challenges the accuracy of the rate reported by the employer. Unless deemed unreasonable, a daily rate of compensation reported by an employee under this paragraph will be used provisionally to compute his or her daily benefit rate, but such rate will be verified in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section. In any case in which the employee's report is deemed unreasonable and no employer report has been provided, the employee's report shall be disregarded, and the Board will seek to verify the employee's last daily pay rate in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section. Pending receipt of such verification, the employee's daily benefit rate shall be set at \$12.70. When an unverified and uncorrected pay rate has been verified or corrected, appropriate redetermination of the daily benefit rate shall be made, and such redetermined benefit rate shall be applied to all the employee's days of unemployment or sickness in the benefit year.

(c) *Employer verification.* Whenever an employee has established a daily rate of compensation under paragraph (b) of this section, the Board will request the employee's base year employer to verify such rate within 30 days. If such verification is not received within 30 days, the employee's daily rate of compensation may be based upon other evidence gathered by the Board if such evidence is reasonable in light of compensation rates reported for other employees of the base year employer in the same occupation or class of service as the employer or in light of previous compensation rates reported by the base year employer for its employees. A daily benefit rate established under this paragraph may not exceed the maximum daily benefit rate established under this part.

(d) *Protest.* An employee who is dissatisfied with the daily benefit rate computed under this part may contest such computation in accordance with part 320 of this chapter.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control numbers 3220-0007, 3220-0008 and 3220-0097)

## PART 332—MILEAGE OR WORK RESTRICTIONS AND STAND-BY OR LAY-OVER RULES

Sec.

- 332.1 Statutory provisions.
- 332.2 General considerations.
- 332.3 Mileage and work restrictions.
- 332.4 Restrictions in extra service.
- 332.5 Equivalent of full-time work.
- 332.6 Standing by for and laying over between regularly assigned trips or tours of duty.
- 332.7 Consideration of evidence.

AUTHORITY: 45 U.S.C. 362(1).

SOURCE: Board Order 59-95, 24 FR 3372, Apr. 30, 1959, unless otherwise noted.

### § 332.1 Statutory provisions.

\* \* \* (1) a day of unemployment with respect to any employee, means a calendar day on which he is able to work and is available for work and with respect to which \* \* \* no remuneration is payable or accrues to him \* \* \* and (2) a "day of sickness", with respect to any employee, means a calendar day on which because of any physical, mental, psychological, or nervous injury, illness, sickness, or disease he is not able to work, or, with respect to a female employee, a calendar day on which, because of pregnancy, miscarriage, or the birth of a child, (i) she is unable to work or (ii) working would be injurious to her health, and with respect to which \* \* \* no remuneration is payable or accrues to him \* \* \* *Provided, further,* That any calendar day on which no remuneration is payable to or accrues to an employee solely because of the application to him of mileage or work restrictions agreed upon in schedule agreements between employers and employees or solely because he is standing by for or laying over between regularly assigned trips or tours of duty shall not be considered either a day of unemployment or a day of sickness. (Section 1(k), Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act)

[Board Order 68-72, 33 FR 11115, Aug. 6, 1968]

### § 332.2 General considerations.

(a) *Classes of service covered.* Conditions under which remuneration with respect to a day may not be payable to