

For some, 99 weeks is too short

Federal extensions to unemployment have made almost two years of benefits available, but that's not enough for the longest of the long-term unemployed. The first people to start on the most recent 20-week extension will exhaust their benefits next week, potentially placing them in dire financial straits. About 20,000 people in Illinois are on their last rung of extensions.



* Funded by the federal government; will end if Congress cuts unemployment extension funding.
Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security