



Oklahoma's Back to Work Initiative Program

On May 17, Governor Kevin Stitt announced the start of a new Back to Work Initiative to address the recent labor shortage and foster economic recovery. The first 20,000 Oklahomans with an active unemployment claim for one of the first two weeks in May (May 2-15, 2021) who accept a job position in the state of Oklahoma are eligible to receive a \$1,200 back to work incentive. The incentive payment will be made following the completion of the individual's sixth week of full-time employment.

Who is eligible?

The first 20,000 Oklahomans who meet the following criteria are eligible for the back to work incentive:

- You had an active unemployment claim and filed for at least one of the first two weeks in May (May 2-15, 2021).
- You accept an offer of employment in the state of Oklahoma, and work full-time (at least 32 hours per week) for at least six (6) consecutive weeks for the same employer between May 17, 2021 and Sept. 4, 2021. That employer must pay into the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund or have a FEIN.
- You can provide a valid paycheck stub for proof of full-time employment between May 17, 2021 - Sept. 4, 2021.

The first 20,000 Oklahomans who meet these criteria will receive a one-time \$1,200 bonus payment.

Important dates:

- Must have an active claim for at least one of the first two weeks of May (May 2-15, 2021)
- Paystub submission period: June 28, 2021 - Sept. 4, 2021
- Payments begin dispersing the second week of July

How do I apply for the incentives/submit my paystub?

Claimants can begin to apply starting June 28 on OESC's website. Additional guidance on the submission of documentation (paystubs) will be released soon.

View the [Governor's Executive Order](#) covering this initiative, or view additional information about which federal benefits are ending [HERE](#).