

401 SW Topeka Blvd.  
Topeka, KS 66603-3182



Phone: (785) 296-0901  
Fax: (785) 296-0753  
KDOL.Communications@ks.gov  
dol.ks.gov

Ryan C. Wright, Acting Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Nov. 23, 2020

Contact: Jerry Grasso  
Communications Director  
785-296-0901  
[KDOL.Communications@ks.gov](mailto:KDOL.Communications@ks.gov)

**United States Department of Labor Ends Extended Benefits Unemployment Program in Kansas**

**Topeka, Kansas** - The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) notified the state that Kansas has officially “triggered off” of the unemployment insurance Extended Benefits (EB) program, bringing the program to its end.

The federal agency’s announcement means that Kansans’ last payable week on the EB program will be the week ending December 12, 2020. Additionally, the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) is prohibited from making any additional payments, regardless of any remaining balance of EB entitlement. Kansans who are no longer eligible for the EB program may be eligible to receive Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) if they qualify under all of the program’s federally mandated criteria.

In response to USDOL’s EB notification, KDOL will be reaching out to impacted claimants to inform them of the program’s suspension and to notify them that they are no longer eligible for payments. KDOL will also advise the impacted claimants that they may be eligible to receive benefits under the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program.

Since March 15, KDOL has paid out more than 3.1 million weekly claims totaling over \$2.3 billion between regular unemployment and the federal pandemic programs. For more information, or to apply for unemployment benefits, go to [www.GetKansasBenefits.gov](http://www.GetKansasBenefits.gov).

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