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Kansas Department of Labor Reviewing American Rescue Plan Act Extension

The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) is currently reviewing the unemployment extension provisions contained in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). These extended provisions will provide additional unemployment compensation to unemployed Kansans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

KDOL is currently waiting on guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) on the ARP extensions in Kansas. KDOL’s team is doing as much work as possible to implement these extensions. However, the agency may not be able to issue payments under the new legislation until guidance is received from USDOL.

The relevant programs and changes include:

Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)

- Will provide up to an additional 29 times an individual’s calculated weekly benefit amount to a maximum of 53 times an individual’s calculated weekly benefit amount.
- The program will be extended through September 6, 2021.

Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)

- Will provide up to an additional 29 weeks of benefits to a maximum of 79 weeks.
- The program will be extended through September 6, 2021.

Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)

- The program will be extended through September 6, 2021.

All three benefit program extensions under the current Continued Assistance for Unemployed Workers Act of 2020 were scheduled to expire after the week ending March 13, 2021. KDOL does not anticipate significant disruptions for claimants once the implementation process for the ARP extensions is in place. KDOL will continue to update the public as new information becomes available.

Since March 15, 2020 KDOL has paid out over 4.1 million weekly claims totaling over $2.7 billion between regular unemployment and the federal pandemic programs. For more information, or to apply for unemployment benefits, go to www.GetKansasBenefits.gov.

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