



COLORADO

Governor Jared Polis

TOPLINE MESSAGES

Colorado Jump Start Program

- Over the last year, many Coloradans have faced incredible economic challenges caused by the global COVID-19 pandemic.
- With the lifesaving vaccine making its way across the state, we're thrilled to see more of our small businesses bouncing back, and more Coloradans returning to full-time work.
- But just because more people are re-entering the workforce, doesn't mean the economic challenges they have faced will simply disappear.
- That's why the State of Colorado is thrilled to unveil the Colorado Jumpstart Incentive program to help make transition back to work a successful one. Coloradans eligible for the program can receive up to \$1,600.
- This program recognizes that starting a new job takes resources like transportation, child care, clothing, etc. the State believes that this incentive will provide individuals the resources they need to return to the workforce quickly and assist with statewide economic recovery.
- In 2020, Colorado lost 143,900 jobs. The Governor's Executive Order directs the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment to make direct payments to eligible individuals who return to full time employment between May 16, 2021 and June 26, 2021. This program will specifically provide recipients of unemployment insurance (UI) benefits with extra financial support to help set up Coloradans for future success when they return to work.
- Return to work incentives are gaining in popularity across the country, and is a logical step in speeding our economy recovery. Similar programs are already being pursued in New Mexico and Montana. Colorado's program is responsive to the White House's announcement made the week of May 17th for states to encourage a return to work.

Details of the Program

- To be eligible for an incentive, Colorado's unemployed workers must have received at least one week of unemployment benefits of \$25 or more between March 28, 2021 and May 16, 2021 and have verified their identities via ID.me.
- A full list of eligibility requirements is posted on [ColoradoUI.gov](https://coloradoUI.gov).
- Eligible claimants who return to work full time in May will receive a Colorado Jumpstart Incentive of \$1,600. Those who return to work full time in June will receive an incentive of \$1,200.
- Newly employed workers must maintain full time employment for at least eight weeks to receive the full incentive.
- The incentives are expected to be issued during July and August of 2021 and will be distributed in two installments. Claimants will become eligible for the first half of the incentive after approximately four weeks of full time employment, and will become eligible for the remaining half after approximately eight weeks.