

Employer FAQs — Colorado Jumpstart

What is the Colorado Jumpstart program?

- Colorado Jumpstart is a return-to-work incentive program for Colorado unemployment claimants who return to work full-time between May 16 and June 26, 2021.

How much are Colorado Jumpstart payments?

- Eligible claimants who return to work between May 16 and May 29, 2021 can receive a Colorado Jumpstart incentive payment of \$1,600. Eligible claimants who return to work between May 30 and June 26, 2021 can receive a Colorado Jumpstart incentive payment of \$1,200. Colorado Jumpstart payments are taxable and will be taxed at the percentage a claimant has previously selected.

Who is paying for the incentive payments to workers?

- Colorado Jumpstart is made possible through a Governor's Executive Order and is funded by the federal CARES Act. Since these are federal funds, there is **no impact** to the State's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund or employer premiums.

When will claimants receive Colorado Jumpstart payments?

- 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. If an employee returns to unemployment within eight weeks, they will forfeit any remaining unpaid Colorado Jumpstart payments.

What if the employee quits after receiving their first or second payment? Are they eligible for UI again?

- Accepting employment only to receive the payments and subsequently separating from employment for no other reason than the receipt of the incentive payments is not a valid reason to be considered entitled to benefits. As this would be the most recent separation from employment, any disqualifying job separation would result in a ten-week postponement of unemployment benefits. Additionally, an individual that separates from employment strictly to receive the additional \$300 per week payments is considered to have engaged in fraud and is no longer eligible for any of those additional weekly payments.

If employees return to unemployment after the 8 week period, where do employers report this? The existing questionnaire form? Or will there be a special reporting tool?

- Employers would report this via the regular job separation tools.