Ohio Jobless Claims for Sunday, June 28, through Saturday, July 4, 2020

In a sign that Ohioans are heading back to work, statistics the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) reported to the U.S. Dept. of Labor today show that for the 10th straight week, continued applications for unemployment benefits have declined. Those who remain jobless filed 347,587 fewer continued claims last week compared to the peak in April.

In addition, for the week ending July 4, ODJFS reported 33,483 initial jobless claims to the U.S. Dept. of Labor. The total number of initial jobless claims filed in Ohio over the last 16 weeks (1,464,290) is more than the combined total of those filed during the last three years.

Over the last 16 weeks, ODJFS has distributed more than \$4.9 billion in unemployment compensation payments to more than 736,000 Ohioans. Of the more than 1 million applications the agency has received, about 94% have been processed, with about 6% pending. In addition, ODJFS has issued more than \$3.8 billion in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) payments to more than 411,000 PUA claimants.

Recovery Efforts

While ODJFS continues to manage the state's unemployment program, it also has multiple initiatives under way to help spur Ohio's economic recovery. These include an \$8.5 million National Dislocated Worker <u>Grant</u> that will help unemployed workers and employers impacted by COVID-19.

ODJFS works in partnership with local workforce development boards and local staff to provide employment and training services at 22 comprehensive and 66 affiliate OhioMeansJobs centers throughout the state. Individuals can visit OhioMeansJobs.com or contact their local OhioMeansJobs center to find and apply for job openings, take skill and career interest assessments, create or improve their resumes, and practice interviewing.

Employers can contact their nearest OhioMeansJobs center to get help finding skilled candidates for jobs, screening resumes, learning about federally funded tax credits or training programs, and more.

To find your nearest OhioMeansJobs center, go to <u>ifs.ohio.gov/county</u> or visit <u>OhioMeansJobs.com</u> and click on the icon for OhioMeansJobs centers.

Additional Unemployment Information

ODJFS urges individuals to file their unemployment claims online, if possible, at <u>unemployment.ohio.gov</u>. Individuals seeking PUA benefits should file their claims online at <u>pua.unemployment.ohio.gov</u>.

All eligible Ohioans will receive their unemployment benefits, and any processing delays will not reduce the amount received. ODJFS will not rest until all eligible Ohioans are served.

Coronavirus-Specific Unemployment Information: <u>unemployment.ohio.gov</u>

Filing for Unemployment Step-by-Step Guide: jfs.ohio.gov/ouio/pdf/QuickTipsAndStepByStepGuide.pdf

New federal Pandemic Unemployment Programs: jfs.ohio.gov/ocomm/pdf/CARES-ACT.pdf

As a reminder, mass layoff notices are posted at jfs.ohio.gov/warn/current.stm.