



## Mandated Reemployment Services

### Introduction

To help recipients of unemployment benefits return to the workforce, the U.S. Department of Labor sanctions two reemployment programs: the Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) program and the Unemployment Compensation Reemployment Services (UCRS) program. Both programs connect unemployed and under-employed claimants to reemployment and training services designed to help them quickly and effectively transition to their next jobs. These services are delivered through the OhioMeansJobs centers.

According to federal regulations, once a state notifies claimants that they have been selected to participate in the RESEA or UCRS program, participation in all components of the assigned program is mandatory. Ohio law (Ohio Revised Code 4141.29 (A)(7)) states that individuals who are selected for and fail to participate in the RESEA or UCRS program are not entitled to unemployment benefits, with few exceptions:

- The individual completed similar services, or
- The individual has justifiable cause for failing to participate in the program.

### Policy Considerations

- Same or similar services must be completed within the individual's current benefit year.
- Justifiable cause can be granted only if a verifiable, compelling reason exists for failing to participate in the required activities.

### Impact on Eligibility

RESEA: Failure to comply with the RESEA requirements without just cause will result in a denial of unemployment benefits for each week claimed until the required activity is completed.

UCRS: Unemployment benefits will be denied for the week that an individual fails to participate without just cause in scheduled UCRS services.