

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 24, 2020**

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### **Improved Unemployment Rate Impacts Extended Unemployment Benefits**

COLUMBUS, OHIO – Ohio’s October unemployment rate dropped drastically, triggering federally mandated changes in both the Federal-State Extended Benefits (EB) program and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA).

Individuals who exhaust their regular unemployment benefits are potentially eligible for Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC). If they exhaust PEUC, they are potentially eligible for EB. If they exhaust all three programs, they are potentially eligible for PUA.

On December 12, EB benefits will end for individuals who were eligible to receive up to 20 weeks of this program. In addition, individuals currently receiving PUA will not qualify for 7 additional PUA weeks after December 12.

New claimants, approved to receive up to 13 weeks of EB based on Ohio’s lower unemployment rate, are not impacted at this time. However, unless action is taken at the federal level, only traditional unemployment benefits will remain in effect after December 26. [Click here](#) and [here](#) for graphic representations of the unemployment programs available in Ohio in November, December and January.

Ohio’s unemployment rate for October declined to 5.6%, which reduced the state’s three-month average unemployment rate to 7.6% and ended what the U.S. Department of Labor defines as a “High Unemployment Period.” Ohioans were [eligible](#) for additional weeks of benefits when the state was in a High Unemployment Period.

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*The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services manages vital programs that strengthen Ohio families. These include job training and employment services, unemployment insurance, cash and food assistance, child care, child and adult protective services, adoption, and child support services.*

