



# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Oklahoma Employment Security Commission Services Not Affected by Federal Government Shutdown

**OKLAHOMA CITY, OK** (April 8, 2011) – Richard McPherson, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC), today addressed the impending federal government shutdown and its effect on Oklahomans.

“We want to assure the public at large and specifically those impacted by the government shutdown that OESC’s resources will still be available to them,” Mr. McPherson said. “This will not affect the payment of unemployment benefits or the programs and services currently offered through workforce centers statewide. Our agency will also continue to function normally during the work stoppage.”

Mr. McPherson added that those impacted by the federal government shutdown can apply for unemployment benefits on or after Thursday, April 14, 2011. To file a claim for unemployment benefits, Oklahomans can visit [www.unemployment.ok.gov](http://www.unemployment.ok.gov) or call the OESC Unemployment Insurance (UI) Service Center at 525-1500 in the Oklahoma City area and (800) 555-1554 in other parts of the state.

**About OESC** – The Oklahoma Employment Security Commission is Oklahoma’s state workforce agency. OESC provides unemployment compensation to support unemployed workers and their communities; matches jobs and workers to benefit local labor markets; prepares a skilled workforce to meet employers’ needs; and gathers, analyzes and disseminates information about the labor force to improve local economic decisions.

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