



# NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: John Carpenter, Public Information Officer ♦ Office: (405) 557-5469 ♦ Fax: (405) 525-0139  
E-mail: [john.carpenter@oesc.state.ok.us](mailto:john.carpenter@oesc.state.ok.us) ♦ Website: <http://oesc.ok.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) Program Extended through 2011

### *Congress Resets EUC Expiration Deadline as Part of Tax Bill*

**OKLAHOMA CITY, OK** (December 17, 2010) – Oklahomans are once again eligible to receive any unused benefits on their Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) claims. On Friday afternoon, President Obama signed into law a bill that contained, among other things, an extension of the EUC deadline to file for any unused EUC benefits a person may be eligible for. That deadline was reset to December 31, 2011. This new law only extends the window to file for EUC; it does not add any additional weeks of benefits for those who have already exhausted their EUC claims.

Unemployment claimants are first eligible for up to 26 weeks of regular state unemployment benefits from the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC). Once these regular benefits are exhausted, claimants can receive federal extended unemployment benefits known as EUC Tier 1 for up to 20 additional weeks. When a claimant has collected all eligible EUC Tier 1 payments, they can apply for EUC Tier 2, now for a maximum of 14 weeks. After EUC Tier 2 is exhausted, Oklahoma claimants can apply for EUC Tier 3 and collect extended unemployment benefits for up to 13 weeks.

This is the third time in 2010 that the EUC deadline was reset. When it expired this last time on November 30, 2010, the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC) encouraged affected claimants to file for the next EUC tier and continue filing weekly certifications in order to prepare for a possible extension. OESC is currently processing all pending EUC claims and hopes to have all pending claims paid by December 30, 2010.

**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.

###