

STATE OF INDIANA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT INDIANAPOLIS

EXECUTIVE ORDER 25-32

**FOR: PROMOTING LONG-TERM GROWTH AND FLOURISHING
THROUGH WORKFORCE ENCOURAGEMENT FOR HOOSIERS
WITHOUT JOBS**

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS.

WHEREAS, Indiana Code § 22-4-18-4 provides that Department of Workforce Development ("DWD") shall administer the State of Indiana's unemployment insurance;

WHEREAS, the State of Indiana's unemployment insurance program serves as a temporary safety net for Hoosiers seeking new employment;

WHEREAS, research provided by the United States Department of Labor has found that unemployment claimants in groups with more-stringent work search requirements were more likely to be employed than claimants in groups with less-stringent requirements in the first year following their initial unemployment claims, received unemployment benefits payments for fewer weeks, exhausted unemployment benefits at a lower rate, and received fewer conditional payments in the year following their initial unemployment claims;

WHEREAS, research provided by the United States Department of Labor has found that merely sending notices to unemployment benefit recipients informing them of the requirement to participate in work search activities led to reductions in the amount and duration of unemployment benefits received;

WHEREAS, research provided by the United States Department of Labor has further found that stricter work search requirements combined with enhanced claimant placement services reduced unemployment benefit duration and improved reemployment rate; and

WHEREAS, motivating unemployment benefit recipients to rejoin the workforce will improve the lives of Hoosiers and the economy of the State of Indiana;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE BRAUN, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby order that:

1. To promote innovative and best-in-class solutions, DWD is directed to conduct a review of leading states for reemployment activities. The review shall include, but is not limited to:
 - a. the timing and nature of initial contacts with unemployment applicants;
 - b. use of personal reemployment plans;
 - c. type and timing of job search activities offered and required;
 - d. number of job search activities required each week; and
 - e. notices provided to unemployment applicants.
2. In the modern economy, everyone's job search looks a little different. In order to move away from "one size fits all" solutions, DWD is directed to take all necessary steps to accelerate the timeline for recipients' first personal contact with a Work One office to week one of enrollment. DWD is directed to evaluate the efficacy of allowing the initial contact to be virtual compared to in-person contact.

3. In order to improve the efficacy of the State's unemployment insurance program and promote the dignity of work, DWD is directed to take all necessary steps to require recipients, when appropriate, to conduct additional, diligent and meaningful work search activities each week.
4. In order to ensure that recipients are held accountable to meaningful work search activity requirements, DWD is directed to take all necessary steps to increase the frequency, scope, and rigor of its routine audit of work search activities.
5. In order to help identify those at highest risk of exhausting unemployment insurance benefits and to develop recommendations for how to best tailor reemployment services to efficiently support claimants in finding work, DWD is directed to evaluate the common factors that lead to unemployment insurance recipients receiving at least 14 weeks of benefits during an individual claim and common factors that lead to unemployment insurance recipients collecting unemployment benefits multiple times in a four-year window.
6. The review by DWD shall be completed by September 30, 2025, with a written report provided to the Governor and the Legislative Council by November 30, 2025, that includes a description of steps taken, and planned, to comply with this Executive Order.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I,
Mike Braun, have hereunto set my hand
and caused to be affixed the Great Seal
of the State of Indiana on this 27th day
of February, 2025.

Mike Braun
Mike Braun Governor of Indiana

ATTEST: *DIEGO MORALES*
Diego Morales
Secretary of State