

Inmates frequently write to the **Department of Workforce Services** requesting unemployment benefits, as well as benefits through other federal and state programs. These letters typically refer the reader to **Public Law 93 365 92 60**.

Please be advised that there are **no** federal or state programs in existence that pay unemployment insurance benefits to individuals that are incarcerated.



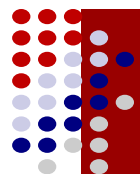
**If you have questions regarding filing a claim for Arkansas Unemployment Insurance, contact the DWS local office nearest to you.**

## **Unemployment Insurance**

ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
WORKFORCE SERVICES

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

REGARDING  
THE  
ARKANSAS  
UNEMPLOYMENT  
INSURANCE  
PROGRAM



## Will you qualify for benefits?

The majority of inmates that write to DWS requesting unemployment benefits do so because they will soon be released from incarceration.

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There are many eligibility requirements that must be met before one may receive unemployment insurance benefits.

Generally speaking, individuals that have been out of the workforce for more than nine months will not have sufficient wages credits to monetarily establish an unemployment insurance claim.

Accordingly, the information circulating within the inmate population is erroneous and should be disregarded.

To be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits, an individual must be able and available to perform work. Individuals that are incarcerated do not meet the availability requirements.

After being released, inmates that believe they may be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits may report to their nearest DWS local office to file an unemployment insurance claim.

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Regardless of their eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits, a former inmate still should register for work with DWS and take advantage of other services provided to individuals seeking to reenter the workforce.

The Arkansas Department of Workforce Services administers several programs that are specialized for meeting the needs of job seekers, employers, and the general public.

For more information regarding these programs or any other program offered by DWS, inquire at any DWS office.

### **Career Readiness Certification**

Provides a portable credential based upon the WorkKeys® assessments that demonstrate to employers that an individual possesses the basic workplace skills required for 21st century jobs.

### **TANF**

Created to help families stay together by empowering family leaders with job skills, resources, and assistance.

### **Veteran Services**

DVOP and LVER staff develops increased hiring opportunities within the local work force by raising the awareness of employers of the availability and the benefit of hiring veterans.

### **Mature Workers Initiative**

Promotes the benefits of keeping the mature population involved in employment and civic activities.